FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 236 *7 December 1983*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

River Plate Foreign Ministers Meet in Asuncion [ABC COLOR 1 Dec] A 1
Adopt Resolutions [HOY 3 Dec] A 1

ARGENTINA

Dissolution of Military Junta Formally Announced B 1
Bignone Bids Presidential Officials Farewell B 1
Navy Issues Communique on Transfer of Command B 1
Command Change Ceremony Reported B 2
Soviet Ambassador Delivers Note on U.S. Policy B 2
Caputo Denies Report on Chilean Opposition B 3
Arrival of Paraguay's Foreign Minister Reported B 3
Mauroy-Led Delegation To Arrive 9 December B 3
Mrs Peron Plans Visit, 'Permanent Return' [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 4 Dec] B 4
Editorial Questions Wisdom of Inviting Mrs Peron [LA PRENSA 2 Dec] B 4
Montoneros Announce Intention To Return B 5
Montoneros Leader Denied Suspension of Sentence [LA PRENSA 3 Dec] B 6
New Government Plans 1,200-Peso General Pay Hike B 6
CGT Groups Continue Joint Action, Fail To Unite B 6
Metalworkers on Strike for Higher Salary B 7
Grain Export Figures Show USSR, PRC Chief Buyers B 7

BRAZIL

Uruguayan President To Make Visit 27-28 Feb D 1
Government To Support PDS Convention Nominee [JORNAL DO BRASIL 5 Dec] D 1
PMDB Convention Shows Preference for Neves [JORNAL DO BRASIL 5 Dec] D 1

CHILE

Ambassador to Washington To Return Soon E 1
Schweitzer Returns After Thailand, Israel Visits E 1
Attempt To Delay Beagle Channel Pact Alleged E 1
Jarpa Scores Opposition E 1
Valdes Denies Delay Attempt E 2
'Professional Agitators' Said Involved in Riots E 2
Havana Claims Police Repression E 3
Seguel Meets With Spanish Socialist Leaders E 3
Christian Democrats To Hold Meeting in Santiago E 4
Irrigation Official Denies Plan To Divert River E 4

PERU

Percovich on Terrorist, Drug Traffickers' Attack J 1
Shining Path Attack Reported J 1

Havana Cites Justice on 'Lack of Facilities' J 1
ROK Foreign Minister Arrives on Official Visit J 2
Havana on Government Employees' Strike J 2
ENTEL Implements Telecommunications Projects J 2
[EL COMERCIO 26 Nov]
Havana on Bubonic Plague in Lambayeque J 3
Briefs: Cooperation With Cuba; New Railway Official; J 3
Loan for Agriculture

VENEZUELA

Electoral Figures for 60 Percent of Votes L 1

MEXICO

Two U.S. Fishing Boats Seized Off Tamaulipas M 1
De la Madrid Congratulates Venezuela's Lusinchi M 1
Pemex Turns Down Orders To Avoid Exceeding Quota M 1
[EL NACIONAL 3 Dec]
CTM Requirement on Party Membership Viewed M 2
[EXCELSIOR 30 Nov]
Briefs: Oil Fleet M 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Diplomatic Relations Severed With North Korea [YONHAP] P 1
UN Ambassador To Announce Break P 1
Monge Says Arauz To Remain Acting Minister P 2
Arauz Orders Investigation Into Espionage P 2
[LA REPUBLICA 30 Nov]
Havana Cites Figueres on Castro, C.A. P 2
Havana Notes Arauz' Support for Contadora P 3
Havana Cites Solano on Mining of Border P 3
Briefs: 1984 Budget Approved P 3

EL SALVADOR

Jury Finds Members of Security Corps Guilty P 3
Rights Commission Official Tells of Work P 4
Armed Forces Work To Control Attacked Areas P 4
Radio Farabundo Marti Reports Cabanas Fighting P 5
Havana on FMLN Actions, New Army Battalion P 5
Havana Reports Recent Army-Guerrilla Clashes P 5

GUATEMALA

Official Rejects Rumors of Coup D'Etat P 6
[EL GRAFICO 6 Dec]
Electoral Law Draft To Be Ready 15 December P 6
Mejia Victores To Travel to Brazil, Argentina P 7
Guerrillas Reported Killed in Highland Clashes P 7
[LA PRENSA LIBRE 5 Dec]
FAR Rebels Destroy Communications Center [Havana] P 7
Briefs: Political Committee Registers; Ambassador to P 8
Italy; New Ambassador to Colombia

HONDURAS

U.S. Nuns' Entry Denial Elicits Official Comment P 8
Havana Notes Visa Denial P 9
Paz Barnica To Attend Argentine Inauguration P 9
Havana Notes CBI, Protests, Cabinet Moves P 10

NICARAGUA

State Council Secretary Views Electoral Law P 10
'Political Debates' Program Discusses Elections P 11
Opposition Says Election Announcement Not Credible P 13
FDN Rejects Amnesty P 14
Government Protests Honduran Naval Attacks P 14
Wheelock Reports Further Corinto Oil Attack P 15
Defense Ministry Denies Attack P 15
Costa Rica Warned of Planned Border Attack P 16
UN Ambassador Chamorro Briefs Perez de Cuellar P 16
Ortega on Political Parties, Pastora, Violence [Lima] P 17
Junta Sends Message to PLO on Solidarity Day P 18
Editorial Says 'Secret Weapons' Used in Grenada [BARRICADA 2 Dec] P 19
U.S. Senator's Comments After Visit 'Ambiguous' P 19
Scientific Agreement Signed With GDR in Managua [East Berlin] P 20
Venezuelan Oil Cutoff Said Affecting Economy [Mexico City EXCELSIOR 30 Nov] P 20
Official Reports Results of Recent Fighting P 21
Defense Minister Congratulates Cuba's FAR P 21
PCdeN Urges Peaceful Solutions, Democratization P 22
Voice of Sandino Details ARDE Activities P 22
El Almendro Post Attacked P 22
Cardenas Attack Reported P 22
Pro-Soviet Patrol Hit P 23
Army Casualties P 23
Havana Reports Activities, Plans, Statements P 24
Electoral Announcement P 24
Ortega, Nunez Cited P 24
Ortega Comments P 25
Military Situation, CIA 'Plans' P 26
Situation in Zelaya Norte P 26

CUBA

Government Declaration on NATO Missiles Q 1
Foreign Ministry Note on Middle East Q 2
Diplomat Accuses U.S. of Threatening Mankind Q 2
Havana Attacks U.S. 'Intervention' in Panama Q 2
Havana Notes Grenada Official's Resignation Q 3
Czech Reportage of Malmierca Official Visit [cross-reference] Q 4
Elections for Municipal Assembly Posts Set Q 4
KPL Cites Castro Greeting on Lao National Day Q 4

CARIBBEAN

DOMINICA

No Change Expected in Relations With Venezuela S 1

GRENADA

Advisory Council Ends 3-Day Economic Review S 1
IMF Loan Suspended S 1
Statement Issued S 2
Airport To Be Completed S 4
Return of Students Sought S 4
Governor Denies Differences With Rushford S 5
Radio Facilities To Be Restored by Weekend S 5
CBA Official on Fact-Finding Trip S 5
Prospects for Station Outlined S 6

JAMAICA

Loan Agreement for Power Plant Signed With Japan S 7
South Korean Presidential Envoy To Visit S 7

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Canada To Conduct Offshore Oil, Gas Drilling S 7

OTHER COUNTRIES

BOLIVIA

Armed Forces To Repress Terrorists, Armed Groups V 1
Officers Being Investigated for Drug Trafficking V 1

COLOMBIA

President Betancur's Brother Released 7 Dec V 1
Report Issued on Kidnappings in 3-Year Period V 2
[EL TIEMPO 3 Dec]

URUGUAY

Indirect Approval of Constitution Rejected V 2

RIVER PLATE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN ASUNCION

PY011436 [Editorial Report] Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish on 1 December 1983 on page 13 published reports on the arrival of the Bolivian, Argentine, Uruguayan, and Brazilian foreign ministers who, in addition to the Paraguayan foreign minister, will attend the 14th regular meeting of foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin, which will be held in Asuncion on 1 and 2 December.

In separate articles, ABC COLOR reported on the arrival of Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, Bolivian Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado, Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, and Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso.

ABC COLOR also reported that on 30 November the governors of the River Plate Basin Financial Development Fund, Fonplata, which is also meeting in Asuncion, approved the increase of its capital from $100 million to $200 million. It added that this increase in capital will strengthen Fonplata's financial programs.

Adopt Resolutions

PY061249 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 10

[Text] The following resolutions were adopted during the 14th meeting of foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin countries:

Resolution No 185

Considering that the documents drawn up during the meeting are a valuable contribution to the functioning of the River Plate Basin system and that they show the decision of the member countries to continue their efforts to promote harmonious development and the physical integration of the region,

That it is necessary to suit the activities of the River Plate Basin system to the new requirements for a dynamic regional integration based on an agenda of priorities,

The meeting hereby resolves:

1. To approve the agenda of priorities, methods, and actions listed in Appendixes A and B herein;

2. To maintain the criteria established in Clause 3 of Resolution No 183 (XIII) for inclusion in and future modifications of the agenda of priorities;

3. To charge the intergovernmental coordinating committee with the summoning of annual meetings of the work groups of basic areas it deems necessary. For this purpose, the committee will draw up the corresponding agendas and include the priority matters of each area.

Resolution No 186

Considering the need to adopt a method to periodically evaluate the activities related to the River Plate Basin integration process,

The meeting hereby resolves:

1. To charge the intergovernmental coordinating committee with the summoning of joint meetings between high-ranking government representatives and permanent representatives of of the intergovernmental coordinating committee for the purpose of:

A) Evaluating the application of the agenda of priorities approved in Resolution No 185 (XIV) and recommending the necessary actions to implement the objectives of the River Plate Basin Treaty;

B) Evaluating the activities carried out by the work groups of basic areas and making the necessary observations and recommendations;

C) Analyzing the way in which the River Plate Basin system coordinates its actions with the other regional integration systems;

2. To charge the international [as published] coordinating committee of the River Plate Basin countries with fixing the dates for the meetings and drawing up their agendas in due time.

In principle, these meetings will be held yearly, or every 2 years at the maximum. However, these meetings can be held more frequently if necessary. At the same time, officials who understand the matters to be discussed will be allowed to participate in the meetings as advisers.

Resolution No 188 [as published]

Whereas experience has shown that it is necessary to clearly establish the agenda of the intergovernmental coordinating committee of the countries of the River Plate Basin,

The meeting hereby resolves:

To entrust the intergovernmental coordinating committee with the drafting of the annual agenda of activities and with the distribution of subjects to each work group of basic areas in keeping with Resolution No 60 (VII) and with the definitions of the groups established therein.

Resolution No 189

Whereas there has been great damage caused by the unusual, extraordinary, and abnormal floods of the rivers of the River Plate Basin in 1982-1983,

That the technicians and experts of the member countries had to make a great effort to confront the consequences of these floods,

That it is believed that at this time we should learn from the experience gained to save human lives and to protect the resources of the region,

That the governments in question must evaluate the damage caused by the floods in the River Plate Basin and that they must consider the adoption of certain preventive measures in case there are similar natural disasters in the future,

The meeting hereby resolves:

To entrust the intergovernmental coordinating committee with the summoning of a special meeting of experts of the member countries so that they may submit and study all the undertakings and efforts carried out to confront the effects of the last floods; to study the background of the largest floods that have taken place; and to make suggestions to prevent and lessen the eventual effects of unusual floods. This meeting must be summoned for 1984 within the framework of Basic Area No 2.

DISSOLUTION OF MILITARY JUNTA FORMALLY ANNOUNCED

PY061930 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1830 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (NA) -- The dissolution of the military junta, which has been the highest government political power since 24 March 1976, has been approved with the release of a four-point document written in four copies. It was released only today by an unofficial spokesman. The document was to have been released yesterday, but it is believed to have been delayed because of the uncertain situation created by the Legislative Assembly's delay in proclaiming the constitutional president and vice president because of a technicality.

The document establishes that President Reynaldo Bignone fully possesses all the rights of the military junta until the inauguration of the new officials. The document also dissolves the Legislative Advisory Commission because this organization is incompatible with the Legislative Assembly. The military junta's official communique, publicly revealed after two of its members retired, reads:

"1. The military junta, created by Article 1 of the Statute for the Process of National Reorganization, is hereby dissolved as of today.

"2. Also the Legislative Advisory Commission is dissolved as of today by abolishing the last paragraph of Article 5 and Article 8 of the Process of National Reorganization.

"3. The rights granted by the Statute of the Process of National Reorganization to the military junta will be exercised by the current president until the executive branch is taken over by the new president-elect. On this date the aforementioned statute and its regulations will no longer be in effect.

"4. It is so ordered."

BIGNONE BIDS PRESIDENTIAL OFFICIALS FAREWELL

PY061713 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] President Reynaldo Bignone, together with his immediate coworkers, went to the Southern Room of Government House at noon today to say farewell to under secretaries and former under secretaries of the Presidential Secretariat. He also greeted the national director of ceremonies, the ranking officers of the general secretariats and the military household, the commander of the mounted grenadiers regiment, the cabinet chief of the Foreign Ministry, and the officers of the presidential escort and the health service of the presidency.

NAVY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON TRANSFER OF COMMAND

PY070223 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2243 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (TELAM) -- After 1900, the Libertad building's press department released the following communique: "The Navy General Staff reports that at 1000 today Navy Commander in Chief Ruben Oscar Franco handed over the command of the Navy to Navy Chief of Staff Carlos Pablo Carpintero. "As of that moment," the communique adds, "the Navy became totally subordinate to His Excellency Mr President of the Nation Reynaldo Benito Antonio Bignone in keeping with the powers bestowed upon him by the Argentine Constitution."

Command Change Ceremony Reported

PY061427 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1347 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Bahia Blanca, 6 Dec (TELAM) -- Due to his retirement, Admiral Ruben Oscar Franco today handed over command of the Navy to Vice Admiral Carlos Pablo Carpintero, chief of staff of the Navy. The command transfer ceremony took place aboard the destroyer "Almirante Brown," moored in the north dock of Puerto Belgrano naval base. After reviewing the Navy personnel, Adm Franco delivered his farewell message, and the formal resolution of the change of command was then read. In conclusion, the ensigns were changed and the customary military ceremonies were performed.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR DELIVERS NOTE ON U.S. POLICY

PY070209 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2325 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (NA) -- Soviet Ambassador Oleg Kvasov yesterday delivered a note to the Foreign Ministry, addressed to all the members of the Nonaligned Movement, warning that "the adventurous actions that U.S. leaders are taking are leading the world to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe." The Soviet ambassador met for about 1 hour with the under secretary of foreign relations, Alberto Dumont.

The meeting was also attended by Enrique Vieyra, director of the Eastern European Area, and Oscar Torres Avalos, director of the Central American and Caribbean Area, who also held the position of under secretary for coordination of the Foreign Ministry during the previous constitutional government.

Although no official information was disclosed on the issues discussed during the meeting, NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS had access from diplomatic sources to the note delivered by the Soviet ambassador. The issues to be discussed by the special Soviet mission which is going to attend the presidential inauguration was reportedly also discussed during the meeting. The document delivered by Ambassador Kvasov refers to the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in Western Europe and reiterates the proposals made by the head of the Soviet Government, Yuriy Andropov, on 25 November 1983.

The document says: "We continue to declare that the USSR will under no circumstances use nuclear weapons against countries that do not have these weapons in their territory. We are also willing to reach agreements with other nonnuclear countries on nuclear guarantees." The seven-page document was written in Spanish and shows some errors in syntax which reveal that the document is a translation. The Soviet Government warns that the deployment of the new missiles in the NATO countries is "the beginning of a new and extremely dangerous nuclear arms race."

The document goes on to point out the risks created by this situation for other nations throughout the world. The document also says that "nuclear blackmail is being used more widely by the NATO countries against Latin American countries." As an example of this blackmail, the document recalls the presence of "British nuclear submarines in the Malvinas area last year."

The document also refers to "the presence of a U.S. aircraft carrier with fighter bombers carrying nuclear bombs near the coast of Central America during the development of the Grenada events.

The document points out that "the Soviet Union treats the Nonaligned Movement with great respect, believing that it is a positive factor in the current development of the world and that its influence in the solution of world issues is growing daily."

In conclusion, the document reiterates that "the role of the Nonaligned Movement is now more noticeable in the growing struggle of people against the threat of a generalized nuclear war and in stopping the arms race." The Soviet note adds: "The peaceful forces of the planet, which have recently strongly expressed their desire for an end to the arms race, can and should take action against those who are pushing toward a nuclear catastrophe."

CAPUTO DENIES REPORT ON CHILEAN OPPOSITION

PY060305 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2044 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Dec (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister-designate Dante Caputo today denied that Chilean political leader Gabriel Valdez has asked President-elect Raul Alfonsin to delay an agreement on the Beagle Channel dispute with Chile. A communique released by Alfonsin's press office notes that in the face of recently published reports, Foreign Minister-designate Dante Caputo has made the following clarification:

"I hereby state that at no time has either Mr Gabriel Valdez or any other Chilean opposition party representative asked for a delay in the solution of the Beagle Channel dispute with Chile."

"I submit this clarification," Caputo explained, "at the request of the president-elect and on my own behalf."

ARRIVAL OF PARAGUAY'S FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTED

PY061825 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Report from Ezeiza International Airport]

[Excerpt] Paraguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Saldivar and Paraguayan Senate President Juan Ramon Chavez have arrived in the country. The following statement was made by Foreign Minister Saldivar:

[Begin recording] Relations between Paraguayans and Argentines will always be cordial, because we have many things and many projects in common. We also believe that Argentina, now entering on the road of democracy, will find the best of partners in Paraguay and the Paraguayan Government, which have been democratic for a long time, in order to find common solutions for the benefit of the two nations. [end recording]

MAUROY-LED DELEGATION TO ARRIVE 9 DECEMBER

PY061737 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The French Embassy has confirmed that the French delegation which will attend the presidential inauguration ceremony will arrive in Buenos Aires next Friday at 1300. The delegation will be headed by Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, who will be accompanied by French Commerce Minister Michel Crepeau and by roving Ambassador Antoine Blanca.

MRS PERON PLANS VISIT, 'PERMANENT RETURN'

PY051335 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Dec 83 p 17

[Text] (NA) -- Former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron is to remain in Argentina until December 16 after her arrival on December 8 according to liaison committee member and former Education Minister Pedro Arrighi. She will then go back to Madrid but is to make a permanent return to Argentina in her first fortnight of January.

Arrighi also revealed that apart from himself her only travelling companions will be her personal physician and Croatian Colonel Milos Deboyuetich. Mrs Peron is expected to address the people immediately upon arrival in Argentina. Arrighi also said that the liaison committee would not be organizing any mass receiption for Mrs Peron but that if any other groups within the movement wished to do so, it was "their own decision."

Apart from December 14, when she will spend the day in Tucuman, the former president will be in Buenos Aires, where she will be staying in the Plaza Hotel. According to the liaison committee, her activities will be limited to the presidential inauguration on December 10 and to placing wreathes commemorating her late husband Juan Domingo Peron, his earlier wife Eva and national hero Jose de San Martin on December 12, the latter wreath representing a tribute to the Malvinas war dead. The liaison committee also announced that press credentials necessary for access to cover Mrs Peron's arrival, etc. must be collected tomorrow at Lima 187 (sixth floor) and journalists must bring their papers together with a signed request from their employer or editor.

EDITORIAL QUESTIONS WISDOM OF INVITING MRS PERON

PY060010 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Dec 83 p 1, section 2

[Editorial: "Inescapable Questions"]

[Text] It has been publicly reported that former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron has been invited to attend the inauguration ceremony of the new government, and that she will probably return to our country and attend the scheduled acts. This routinely released, concise report, issued as if it were part of traditional protocol, which is the actual case of the invitation extended to former President Arturo Frondizi, can only cause concern and tension among the public.

Beyond all doubt, the citizen who was given the honor of ruling over the nation by the will of the people becomes for this very reason an illustrious person deserving respect and consideration from his fellow countrymen. In general, the presidency cannot be reached without a long public career during which private interests must be disregarded, privacy lost, and any activity other than politics ruled out. In addition, a politician's reward generally fails to match his own merits because he is forced to subordinate everything, even his own feelings and spiritual interests, to the general interests of the people, who are usually unwilling to reward this behavior.

But this is not so in the case of Mrs Peron. One cannot fail to recall that during her administration she surrounded the executive branch with intimate aides who later turned into ministers wanted by the courts; in an unprecedented scandal, she shared the executive branch of government in the same manner she would share marriage.

And on top of this, the courts found her guilty in several trials and sentenced her to a 95-month prison term. In rulings that are legally and morally beyond all question, she was convicted on charges of mismanaging public funds and misusing public facilities, most notably the drawing of checks on the former Justicialist Solidarity Crusade, which were used to her own benefit.

At the beginning of the military administration, we said in one of our editorials that at that time "the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] had substantial resources and could count on the compulsory votes of its members; that the 'strict respect for party hierarchy suppressed the independence of the three branches of government; that generalized corruption marked managerial scandals and unpunished dirty deals; that disregard for the authorities and for acceptable management practices by unfit individuals led honest and qualified officials to resign; and that slang and uneducated attitudes prevailed among the highest-ranking officials; and as if this were not enough, while the people lived in fear and insecurity because of violence and subversion, constitutional rights were frequently violated."

In an implicit and vain attempt to correct history, which is said to be the avenger of the people, the official invitation has failed to take into account this misconduct and the enormous damage that she caused to our nation.

We are once again reflecting on this issue, as we did before, "without either anger or hatred, but also without forgetting the recent past, whose tremendous and devastating lesson must serve to keep future generations on the alert." Therefore, the public is now faced with the following inescapable questions: What is the real objective of the invitation extended to Mrs Peron? What political intentions underlie this invitation, which will be exposed to reproach from honest people? Why is democracy being restored this way?

MONTONEROS ANNOUNCE INTENTION TO RETURN

PY031211 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1320 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Dec (TELAM) -- In a letter addressed to President-elect Raul Alfonsin and made public here, the leaders of the Montoneros have announced their intention to return to the country immediately in order to seek national unity for liberation. The letter, which was dated 29 November 1982 and was published by some Buenos Aires newspapers, is signed by Mario Eduardo Firmenich, Fernando Vaca Narvaja, Ricardo Obregon Cano, Roberto Perdia, and Oscar Bidegain.

The letter says that the policy which the group will develop after their return will be one of respect for democratic institutions and political pluralism, including the internal democratic transformation of the Peronist movement.

The signers publicly congratulated Alfonsin, and wished him success for the good of the nation and of the Argentine people, noting that the 30 October electoral victory confers upon him not only the state's administrative power but also the serious responsibility of answering popular expectations through his political leadership.

The letter recalls the Constituent Manifesto of the Montonero Peronism signed in Rome on 20 April 1977, which, among other things, stated that the militants of Montoneros Peronism resorted to armed resistance not from a militarist or, less yet, a terrorist inclination, but in compliance with the constitutional mandate which, in the face of state terrorism, calls on all citizens to arm themselves to defend the Constitution and themselves.

Consequently, the letter adds, we affirm that our political calling has been democratic in the past, and will be democratic in the future inasmuch as the institutionalization process the country is experiencing once again offers possibilities for definitive pacification and democratization.

MONTONEROS LEADER DENIED SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE

FYO40053 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] Federal Judge Siro Miguel Angel de Martini has denied a request for suspension of sentence, which is to be served without bail -- submitted on behalf of Mario Eduardo Firmenich. He said that according to the nature of the crimes under which the head of the so-called Montoneros terrorist organization was charged, suspension of sentence cannot be granted.

Based on an accusation made by Humberto Volando, head of the Argentine Agrarian Federation, Oscar Mario Salvi, who was then a federal prosecutor, asked for Firmenich's indictment on charges of aggravated illegal association, which is punishable under Article 210 of the Penal Code and Article 29, Clause A, and C of Security Law 20,840. The then head of the Third Federal Court, Judge Pedro Carlos Narvaiz, ordered Firmenich's indictment and requested Interpol to apprehend him.

Salvi, who currently heads the third court, excused himself from the case because he had acted as prosecutor for this case in the past; therefore, the Federal Chamber assigned the case to Judge de Martini, who has now decided to deny the request for suspension of Firmenich's sentence. If Firmenich tries to return to the country, he will be arrested immediately and put at the disposal of the court. The judge's resolution denying suspension of the sentence was in answer to a request submitted by attorney Fernando E. Torres.

NEW GOVERNMENT PLANS 1,200-PESO GENERAL PAY HIKE

PYO21138 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2232 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 Nov (NA) -- The new constitutional government will immediately decree a general salary increase of about 1,200 pesos and institute a low price basket of mass consumption products during the year-end holiday season. The announcement of these measures and of the future government's intention to bring the monthly inflation rate below double digit figures was made by Economy Minister-designate Bernardo Grinspun and Commerce Secretary-designate Ricardo Campero.

CGT GROUPS CONTINUE JOINT ACTION, FAIL TO UNITE

PYO21652 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2247 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Nov (DYN) -- The two factions of the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] headquartered on Azopardo and Brazil Streets, respectively, have failed in their attempt to achieve the unity of the union movement but have agreed to continue working together. As a first step, the two CGT factions created a commission which will be charged with defending their interests in congress regarding union organizations and social work.

"We are still together, not united but together," Jorge Triaca stated on explaining the situation at the end of the meeting held today at the beer workers union building.

The new inter-CGT commission will hold its first meeting on Monday at 1000 at the Fraternity building. It is made up of the four secretaries general of the Azopardo Street group and the group of 14 leaders designated by the CGT on Brazil Street to discuss the unity issue. The commission will surely become the union representative before the Radical Civic Union government and will thus be charged with holding talks on salaries with the new authorities. Efforts to achieve unity will continue, but only after 10 December.

METALWORKERS ON STRIKE FOR HIGHER SALARY

PY030255 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1316 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 2 Dec (DYN) -- Nearly 300,000 metalworkers went on strike today to demand a salary readjustment before 10 December, and they will call another 48-hour strike next Tuesday if employers do not meet their demand. The strike, which is the first metalworkers strike in 8 years, was observed by practically all metalworkers around the country. Only two Buenos Aires union branches -- the San Nicolas and the San Martin branches -- did not join the work stoppage.

GRAIN EXPORT FIGURES SHOW USSR, PRC CHIEF BUYERS

PY021655 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2320 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Dec (NA) -- The National Grain Board (JNG) has reported that, of the 20,307,649 tons of January-September grain exports, the USSR was the main buyer with 43.7 percent, while the PRC was second with 14.2 percent. The JNG also reported that 47.6 percent of the exports to the USSR was bread wheat, 10.1 percent sorghum, and 9.9 percent corn. The USSR imported 8,886,122 tons of cereal and oilseed while the PRC imported 2,896,599 tons.

The third main buyer of Argentine grain was Japan with 8.9 percent (1,814,478 tons), followed by Iran with 6.9 percent (1,407,203 tons) and Spain with 4.3 percent (878,918 tons). A total of 98.3 percent of the PRC imports was wheat (2,828,717 tons) while 96.5 percent of the Japanese imports was sorghum. At the same time, Iran imported almost equal amounts of wheat and corn in addition to a small amount of sorghum (1,310 tons).

Of the total amount of agricultural exports, 42.5 percent (8,632,364 tons) was bread wheat, 28.3 percent (5,747,780 tons) was corn, 21.6 percent (4,392,704 tons) was sorghum and 5.9 percent (1,218,394 tons) was soya.

September exports were distributed more equally, although the USSR continued to occupy first place with 19.6 percent of the 1,518,340 tons of grain exported during September. At the same time, Japan imported 15.8 percent of this volume, mainly sorghum, and the PRC imported 13.7 percent. Iran was the fourth main buyer during September because it imported a considerable amount of wheat.

Rosario was the most active port during January-September because 28.9 percent of the total volume of grain was exported through it. Bahia Blanca was second with 22.4 percent and Buenos Aires third with 14.7 percent. The largest volume of wheat was exported through Bahia Blanca while those of corn and sorghum were exported through Rosario.

URUGUAYAN PRESIDENT TO MAKE VISIT 27-28 FEB

PY061402 Paris AFP in Spanish 2315 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Dec (AFP) -- Uruguayan President Gregorio Alvarez will officially visit Brazil on 27-28 February 1984 at the invitation of President Joao Baptista Figueriredo, it was officially announced in Brasilia tonight. The announcement made by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry through a brief communique added that the Uruguayan President will arrive in Brazil on 26 February for a private visit, and on 27 February he will travel to Brasilia for the 2-day official visit. Without revaling the agenda for the Uruguayan President's visit, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry stated that the two presidents will meet twice in Brasilia.

GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT PDS CONVENTION NOMINEE

PY061338 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Leitao de Abreau, head of the Civilian Household of the President, has stated that the government will not negotiate with PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] to have a consensus candidate for the nation's presidency. Leitao said that the government will have its candidate: "He will be the one winning the PDS [Social Democratic Party] convention." He said that if Paulo Maluf wins the convention, the Planalto will support him, stressing that "I do not examine this question from the point of view of names."

Leitao believes that the PMDB will vie for President Figueiredo's succession in the Electoral College, even if there is no dissidence within the PDS, "because it has participated in indirect presidential elections twice before." He was referring to the candidacies of Deputy Ulysses Quimaraes in 1974 and General Euler Bentes Monteriro in 1978.

PMDB CONVENTION SHOWS PREFERENCE FOR NEVES

PY061350 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Dec 83 p 1

[Excerpts] The fifth PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] national convention, which confirmed Ulysses Guimaraes as party president and elected Senator Afonso Camargo (Parana State) as party secretary general, has defined a majority position in favor of broad negotiations with the government, and debate with the government on the indirect election of President Figueiredo's successor.

A survey conducted by JORNAL DO BRASIL during the convention showed that Tancredo Neves is the PMDB's favorite presidential candidate in either direct or indirect elections. Tancredo received 33.26 percent of the votes to run in direct elections, followed by Ulysses Guimaraes with 29.56 percent. For indirect elections, Aureliano Chaves was the PMDB Convention delegates, second choice.

AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON TO RETURN SOON

PY061740 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Humberto Julio, the Foreign Ministry under secretary, has said that Chilean Ambassador to the United States Enrique Valenzuela will return to Santiago soon. The Foreign Ministry under secretary made this statement upon his return from Washington where he met with the 28 Chilean consuls appointed to the United States and after holding joint meetings with Honduras and Colombia.

SCHWEITZER RETURNS AFTER THAILAND, ISRAEL VISITS

PY061321 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer has expressed hope that it will be possible to increase trade with Israel and Thailand. He said this yesterday on his return to the country after an official visit to those two countries. The Chilean foreign minister said that the result of his trip would be more than satisfactory if relations could be strengthened in all commercial, cultural, technological and other areas. Schweitzer was received at the airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Sergio Covarrubias and Israeli Ambassador to Santiago David Efrati.

ATTEMPT TO DELAY BEAGLE CHANNEL PACT ALLEGED

Jarpa Scores Opposition

PY060258 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] During a press conference, Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa today referred to reports that Chilean opposition leaders had asked Argentine President-elect Raul Alfonsin to delay any agreement on the mediation on the Beagle Channel dispute. Minister Jarpa said that he had read a report in the Buenos Aires newspaper CLARIN indicating that the group led by Gabriel Valdes had asked Alfonsin not to reach an agreement on the Beagle Channel dispute with the current Chilean Government.

[Begin Jarpa recording] I think that this is very strange. This attitude deserves a description that I do not want to use now. It would be absolutely unacceptable to transfer internal political issues to the area of our foreign policy. Internal political issues must be dealt with at another level. The current Chilean Government has demonstrated that our relations with Argentina are of paramount importance from the viewpoint of the great Latin American integration process, taking into account that, in order for it to succeed, it must begin in the Southern Cone, because of historical, geographical, economic, and cultural circumstances. In this regard, our relations with Argentina are fundamental. I believe this goes beyond governments or formulations that parties may put forth. This Chilean Government has been working toward a resolution of the southern dispute. In Argentina also [words indistinct] to make known the efforts that Argentine sectors have made to reach a solution. [end recording]

Minister Jarpa said that he does not believe that this effort, which has taken years, and this solution, which may be reached in the short-term, can be defeated by political sectarianism -- even less, he added, by internal political rivalries. Therefore, Jarpa went on, I am shocked by the CLARIN report on the attitude of Mr Gabriel Valdes. The interior minister stressed that Rodolfo Seguel has adopted the same attitude.

[Begin Jarpa recording] In the same line, we deplore to see how other Chilean leaders, like Mr Seguel and others, are always trying to make foreign governments intervene in Chilean internal affairs. We read reports on how he has been asking practically [words indistinct] the intervention of foreign governments in Chilean politics. I believe that this attitude impairs our sovereignty and our independence and that it is even humiliating to the Chilean people. I believe that we Chileans are capable of dealing with our own affairs without any foreign intervention. [end recording]

Minister Jarpa said that this action is very dangerous because it is opening our country's doors to foreign intervention, which in the future will turn into an imperialistic domination. All we Chileans, Jarpa went on, have a duty to defend our country's freedom and independence in the face of intervention from any other country. It is unacceptable that some Chileans with twisted minds should go about sponsoring, provoking, or asking for foreign intervention.

Valdes Denies Delay Attempt

PY061911 Paris AFP in Spanish 0154 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Santiago, 5 Dec (AFP) -- Gabriel Valdes, leader of the Chilean opposition Christian Democratic Party, today denied alleged negotiations with Argentine President-elect Raul Alfonsin to extend the conflict over the Beagle Channel between the two nations. Pope John Paul II is acting as mediator in this conflict.

A report, released in Buenos Aires and today reproduced by the Chilean press in Santiago, attributed to former Foreign Minister Valdes intervention to delay the solution to the conflict so it should not give legal status to the current Chilean military regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet.

Valdes categorically denied a reported request to Argentine President-elect Alfonsin to delay the agreement reached by Papal mediation in the Beagle dispute. I do not know of any opposition political leader who could have proposed the postponement of the agreement so that it would not give legal status to this country's military government, he stated. Valdes stated that he has always maintained that Argentina must sign a treaty with Chile based on the proposal which the pope presented to the two countries on 12 December 1982.

Chile accepted that proposal, but the Argentine military regime expressed some reservations which have thwarted a solution. The Argentine president-elect has expressed willingness to accept the mediator's proposal.

'PROFESSIONAL AGITATORS' SAID INVOLVED IN RIOTS

PY061237 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Professional agitators will be eliminated from the PEM [Minimum Employment Plan] and the POJH [Employment Plan for Heads of Families]. This has been announced by the Intendancy of the Metropolitan Region. It asserted that it will be inflexible in weeding out all undesirables from the employment programs subsidized by the government. The reaction of the regional administrative authority is a result of the violent riots in the La Granja and La Florida neighborhoods of the capital. During the disturbances, in which some professional agitators participated, five workers, an officer, and three carabineros were injured.

The official communique released by the Intendancy states that the first outbreak took place in front of the La Granja municipal office at the intersection of Santa Rosa and Americo Vespucio Avenues. At that point, about 3,000 persons, among whom were PEM and POJH representatives, started to interrupt traffic and to demand the payment of a toll from the passing vehicles. Carabineros took action and the rioters started throwing stones at them. Because of the incidents, five civilians, an officer, and three carabineros were injured. A police car was seriously damaged, and five persons were detained for resisting carabineros on duty.

In other, well coordinated actions, serious riots also took place on Vicuna Mackenna Avenue in front of the La Florida municipal office building. Unknown persons belonging to the PEM and the POJH later set fire to a vehicle inspection booth belonging to the La Florida municipality.

The Intendancy of the Metropolitan Region reported that it will release a complete list of injured today or tomorrow. At the same time it will announce all measures to be taken regarding the PEM and POJH special programs. Included in the measures will be a request to the mayors in charge of the programs to submit, as soon as possible, lists of the names of the instigators and activists stirring up those violent incidents, which in no way contribute to improving the standard of living of the poor.

Havana Claims Police Repression

PA062137 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Fourteen persons were wounded and 50 others were arrested because of police repression of two demonstrations staged by workers demanding higher wages and basic social benefits. Thousands of workers employed under the so-called Minimum Employment Plan, who earn a meager $25 per month, clashed with police in the La Granja and La Florida neighborhoods. During the clash, Chilean repressive forces fired weapons and hurled tear gas bombs at the workers, who responded by throwing stones. Similar protests were staged last week in the San Miguel, La Cisterna, Conchali, and Pudahuel neighborhoods of Santiago.

SEGUEL MEETS WITH SPANISH SOCIALIST LEADERS

PY061827 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Chilean union-political activist Rodolfo Sequel has met only socialists during his stay in Spain. Seguel is touring Europe in order to organize a campaign against Chile and particularly to [word indistinct] its economic recovery. News agency reports from Madrid note that Seguel held a meeting with Spain's socialist premier, Felipe Gonzalez. He requested Felipe Gonzalez' aid to exert pressure on Chilean domestic political affairs. The meeting was held at the Moncloa Palace.

Seguel also met with Nicolas Redondo, president of the Workers General Union, which is an organization controlled by the Spanish Socialist Party.

Seguel held a long meeting with Socialist Party leader [name indistinct]. He later met with the Spanish leftist press. He reasserted his attacks against President Pinochet and disclosed that Felipe Gonzalez had pledged his committment to Seguel's political change in Chile.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO HOLD MEETING IN SANTIAGO

PY062233 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] At a press conference in which he released the agenda of the two meetings that the World Union of Christian Democrats will hold in Santiago on 11-12 December 1983, Andres Zaldivar has said that the fact that businessmen, workers, politicians, and military men are members of international organizations does not mean that they lose their identity.

Former Congressmen Juan Hamilton and (Carlos Dupre) also attended the press conference. They reported that the Executive Committee of the World Union of Christian Democrats will meet next Sunday at the Sheraton Hotel, and that the representatives of the organization, which is made up of 52 parties from various countries, will hold another meeting on Monday. This meeting will end with a ceremony at Caupolican Theater, where the late President Eduardo Frei will be honored.

[Begin (Dupre) recording] The Santiago people will hold an event on 12 December honoring President Eduardo Frei, because the people feel that the Christian Democratic Party platform takes into account their concerns. Therefore, the people want to receive the party world leaders at this event. [end recording]

IRRIGATION OFFICIAL DENIES PLAN TO DIVERT RIVER

PY061343 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Chile has made no change whatsoever in the course of the Lauca River, nor has it diverted the Covatoma. This has been reported by (Luis Lamarca), national irrigation director, thus denying an ASSOCIATED PRESS report which gave the La Paz morning paper EL DIARIO as its source.

The daily had reported that Chile was preparing a definitively diversion of the Lauca River. This report was based on a communique released by the Sole Confederation of Bolivian Peasants, which had sent a commission to visit the border region. According to them, Chile had started to change the course of the river bed. We repeat, however, that the report has been categorically denied by (Luis Lamarca), national irrigation director.

PERCOVICH ON TERRORIST, DRUG TRAFFICKERS' ATTACK

PY061450 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0445 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] During a press conference at Government House, Interior Minister Luis Percovich referred to the police patrol that was attacked in San Francisco by drug traffickers. He said:

[Begin Percovich recording] I just want to inform you that we are deeply concerned over the fate of the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] patrol in the San Francisco region, which is located on the border of Ayacucho and Junin Departments. PIP and Civil Guard patrols, with helicopter support provided by the emergency area political-military command, are searching the area where the patrol disappeared. We have no reports about the discovery of bodies or whether the members of the patrol are safe. The situation is still uncertain.

I must also inform you that we are concerned over the attack against a bus belonging to the (Starza) Company. The bus was attacked yesterday when it was leaving Andamarca for its Cabana-Puquio trip.

According to preliminary reports, (Gustavo Huaput), a Civil Guard captain; (Romualdo Martinez Saavedra), a Civil Guard corporal; (Vazquez Anchange), a Civil Guard corporal; (Blas Lira Martinez), a policeman; (Jose Tiguas Munoz), a policeman; and (Felix Romanigua Amani), a policeman, were aboard the bus. It is reported that some of them have been killed, while others were wounded, but there are still no confirmed reports. A police patrol has been sent to strengthen the Cabana police post and to investigate the area where the attack occurred. [end recording]

Shining Path Attack Reported

PY061511 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Police sources have reported that about 80 Shining Path terrorists have attacked a passenger bus, killing 3 policemen and wounding 17 civilians. They also reported that Shining Path terrorists killed 7 peasants in a nearby town.

The terrorists intercepted the bus when it was leaving Andamarca, a town located 150 km south of Ayacucho. They killed a captain, a corporal, and a guard who were aboard the bus. After wounding 3 guards and 14 civilians, the terrorists attacked the nearby town of Cabana, located 15 km from Andamarca, and killed 7 peasants. Among the wounded are the district governor and the local judge.

The same sources added that another group of terrorists killed five peasants in Moya, 56 km south of Ayacucho, apparently because the peasants refused to cooperate with the terrorists.

HAVANA CITES JUSTICE ON 'LACK OF FACILITIES'

PA062142 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Jose Maria Galvez, the president of Peru's Supreme Court of Justice, has declared that it is possible that the murder of eight newsmen last January in the town of Uchuraccay, Ayacucho Department, will go unpunished.

Justice Galvez came to this conclusion because of the lack of facilities being provided to the judicial branch for its investigation into the identity of the killers. Galvez also criticized the large budget cut that the judicial branch will face next year; its budget will amount to less than 1 percent of total state expenditures.

ROK FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PY061507 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0445 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] ROK Foreign Minister Yi Won-Kyong, who is in Peru on an official 3-day visit to strengthen cultural and diplomatic ties, was at Government House today at noon. The following is a report:

[Begin recording] ROK Foreign Minister Yi Won-Kyong, who arrived in Lima yesterday on an official 3-day visit, has just entered Government House. The ROK foreign minister will lunch with the Peruvian president. [end recording]

HAVANA ON GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' STRIKE

PA051702 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Government employee labor organizations, including the health workers, are still on strike. The unions are demanding higher wages and other benefits. The unions are also demanding that the government not fire its members in retaliation for their participation in the strike.

ENTEL IMPLEMENTS TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS

PY061835 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Nov 83 p 4-A

[Text] The National Telecommunications Enterprise (ENTEL PERU) is building a new earth satellite station in Huancayo at an approximate cost of $50 million. It has completed installation of 10 domestic earth satellite stations in different sites around the country, and it is undertaking other projects with a $300-millin price tag.

Spokesmen for ENTEL have said that the Miguel Colina Marie earth satellite station in Huancayo, Sicaya District, will expand telecommunications facilities through about 300 satellite traffic channels. This earth satellite station has identical characteristics to that at Lurin, and it will improve reception of television signals via satellite.

The 10 domestic earth satellite stations have been installed as part of an International Development Agency project in places such as Juanjui, Contamana, Requena, Pucallpa, and Quillabamba, among others. They will make nationwide satellite communication possible, and through the Lurin earth satellite station, international communications as well.

Another project is the long distance international center which is in the hands of the Peruvian Telephone Company, but it will be taken over by ENTEL to be completed with the acquisition of equipment which includes 47 digital centers. These centers will go into operation in 1986, after bids in 1984 and signing contracts in 1985.

A fourth project is related to rural communications for provision of phone service, at least through a phone booth, to 300 localities, particularly provincial capitals and main districts.

Thus several regions will be incorporated into the long distance phone network.

The expansion of the main microwave network and its conversion to a digital system is yet another project. This will double the current phone communications capacity. This project will make it possible to have computerized transmission through terminals installed in the provinces. According to ENTEL spokesmen, the computerized system that has been introduced by EL COMERCIO will be able to install terminals in newspaper offices for direct reception of news dispatches. One ENTEL expert said that in "this way we will enter the telecomputer age through electronic mail and journalism."

These projects should have an effective impact in the various sectors of the nation's business, and should have a synergistic effect on the nation's development. The installation of 220,000 phone lines throughout the country and the expansion of the telex system to nearly 4,000 lines are other ENTEL projects at this time.

HAVANA ON BUBONIC PLAGUE IN LAMBAYEQUE

PA051529 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] A commission that visited Chiclayo, Lambayeque Department, has reported that the bubonic plague has claimed five victims, and that many other people are in advanced stages of the disease, which surfaced in an agrarian cooperative in Udima, Lambayeque Department.

The commission has requested immediate help, because the region has been infested for some time with a great number of hungry rats, which have eaten some of the crops, chickens, ducks, and other small animals. The increased number of these rodents is believed to be responsible for the outbreak of this contagious disease. It has also been learned that in Lambayeque a great number of people have been afflicted with high fever and vomiting, while others have even lost consciousness. The area affected by the plague has a population of 15,000.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH CUBA -- Yesterday Peru and Cuba signed an agreement at the conclusion of the third session of the Peruvian-Cuban Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, and Scientific Cooperation. The agreement includes exchange of information, technical cooperation, and the training of technicians in the areas of agriculture, livestock, fishing, mining, housing, health, and sports. [Excerpts] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p A 4 PY]

NEW RAILWAY OFFICIAL -- Domingo Leon Escurra has been appointed as the new president of the national railway enterprise replacing Augusto Dall Orto who resigned. [Summary] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p A 7 PY]

LOAN FOR AGRICULTURE -- The Andean Development Corporation has granted a $20 million loan to Peru for an agricultural rehabilitation program in the Tumbes and Piura Departments, areas which were affected by floods. [Excerpt] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 11 Nov 83 p A 1 PY]

ELECTORAL FIGURES FOR 60 PERCENT OF VOTES

PA070101 Paris AFP in Spanish 2333 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Caracas, 6 Dec (AFP) -- Jaime Lusinchi, who was elected president of Venezuela last Sunday, and his party, Democratic Action, AD, have widened their victory margin now that 60 percent of the votes have been officially counted.

The Supreme Electoral Council, CSE, issued a new bulletin this afternoon with 3,913,686 votes having been counted, of which 3,818,266 are valid, from a total of 7,777,892 voters, 90 percent of whom went to the polls. Lusinchi has obtained 55.95 percent of the valid presidential votes, while AD has won 48.53 percent of the congressional votes. The results released by the CSE at 2230 today are as follows:

Presidential Candidates	Votes	Percentage
1. Jaime Lusinchi (AD)	[figure indistinct]	55.95
2. Rafael Caldera (Social Christian Party) [COPEI]	1,327,301	34.76
3. Teodoro Petkoff (Movement Toward Socialism)	168,349	4.40
4. Jose Vicente Rangel (People's Unity Alliance)	137,850	3.61
5. Jorge Olavarria (National Opinion Party) [OPINA]	22,098	0.57
6. Gonzalo Perez Hernandez (National Integration Movement)	13,422	0.35
7. Luis Rangel Bourgoin (National Rescue Party)	5,672	0.14
8. Andres Velasquez (Radical Cause)	3,048	0.07
9. Others	4,126	0.10

Congressional Votes	Votes	Percentage
1. AD (Lusinchi)	1,853,219	48.53
2. COPEI (Caldera)	1,075,212	28.15
3. Movement Toward Socialism (Petkoff)	218,990	5.73
4. OPINA (Olavarria)	93,367	2.41
5. People's Electoral Movement (Rangel)	77,526	2.03
6. Democratic Republic Union [URD] (Lusinchi)	77,049	2.01
7. Communist Party (Rangel)	72,779	1.90
8. Movement of the Revolutionary Left (Petkoff)	54,188	1.41
9. ICC [expansion unknown] (Caldera)	43,160	1.13
10. National Integration Movement (Perez Hernandez)	39,043	1.02
11. Socialist League (Rangel)	35,997	0.94

According to Venezuelan law, and assuming the trend in the figures does not vary, the following groups will comprise the next congress, which will have some 45 senators and less than 200 deputies, according to unofficial estimates.

The AD-URD group will have about 30 senators, COPEI 12 or 13, the left 2 or 3, and OPINA at least 2.

AD will have 120 or 125 deputies, COPEI about 58, the left a few more than 12, and OPINA about 4.

TWO U.S. FISHING BOATS SEIZED OFF TAMAULIPAS

FLO70210 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2124 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Mexico, 6 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of the Navy reported today that the Mexican Navy ship "Chihuahua" has captured two U.S. fishing boats that were fishing illegally off the coast of Tamaulipas, Gulf of Mexico.

The boats are the "Miss Charmain" and the "Santa Monica," registered in Brownsville, Texas, and Port Isabel, Texas, respectively. The boats had more than 1,000 kilograms of giant brown shrimp in their holds. Eleven trawling nets were seized from each of the boats. The two boats, Captain Antonio Barrios and 4 crew members, and Captain Carlos Medina and three crew members were all taken to the port of Tampico, Tamaulipas, where they were to be turned over to the appropriate authorities.

DE LA MADRID CONGRATULATES VENEZUELA'S LUSINCHI

FLO61653 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1525 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- In a message of congratulations addressed to Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi, President Miguel de la Madrid has expressed his desire to continue with the expansion of the friendly ties that link Mexico and Venezuela. President De la Madrid also expressed his desire to strengthen cooperation in all areas of mutual interest between the two countries from a more ample perspective for mutual benefit "and to contribute to the strengthening of Latin American solidarity."

In his message, De la Madrid, on what he termed an exemplary day of civic-mindedness, conveyed the cordial congratulations of the Mexican people and Government to President-elect Lusinchi for the victory that he achieved on Sunday. The Mexican chief of state also expressed his best wishes for the personal welfare [of the president-elect] and for the progress of the noble Venezuelan people.

PEMEX TURNS DOWN ORDERS TO AVOID EXCEEDING QUOTA

PA061620 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 1

[By Francisco Mendoza R.]

[Text] The extensive foreign demand for Mexican oil has forced Mexican Petroleum, Pemex, to turn down orders that in some months were as high as 400,000 barrels daily, in order to avoid exceeding the 1.5-million-barrel-per-day export quota established for the purpose of maintaining stability.

Pemex has also stated that it will, as a gesture of "good will," sell crude to the United States for its strategic reserves under strictly commercial terms, taking into consideration the unmet needs of other clients. The United States is currently receiving approximately 47 percent of the oil exported by Mexico. Should Pemex decide to sell more oil, the quantity would not exceed 45,000 barrels daily, since the policy is not to sell to one nation more than 50 percent of its total exports. However, before it goes ahead with the deal, it must drop some of its clients.

Pemex also reported that sales abroad will reach $16.3 billion this year, which represents almost 75 percent of the income the country obtains from exports.

With regard to the U.S. strategic reserves, Mexico had two contracts. One of these, which ended on 30 September, was for 40 million barrels, an average of 110,000 barrels daily. This supply was related to a financial operation involving $1 billion, which the U.S. Treasury Department paid in advance to Mexico in 1982 when the country was experiencing currency problems. "We had to accept very high interest rates," said Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta. He denied that the oil was sold at a price lower than that asked of other buyers.

The other contract is for 50,000 barrels daily, and is still in effect.

Beteta said that the expired contract is under discussion to see if it can be renewed to cover the original amount, as well as a lower amount.

Pemex said that Mexico will not exceed its exports of 1.5 million barrels per day as long as the market does not show definite changes to ensure that an increase will not disrupt order and stability in the market.

CTM REQUIREMENT ON PARTY MEMBERSHIP VIEWED

PA031152 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Nov 83 p 6

[Editorial: "A Play on Words"]

[Text] Leader Fidel Velazquez has said that the workers are not obliged to have any particular political leanings, but that the members of the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] should also be members of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party]. The unions have a right to membership in the confederation of their choice, and the unions' assemblies have the power to decide on the conduct of their organizations and the position they will adopt regarding the issue of assuming joint positions.

Certainly, the CTM includes in its laws a provision obliging members to belong to the PRI. This is an old rule. If the workers do not agree, they can vote within their assemblies to modify their union's laws and, if necessary, those of their confederation.

Neither the government nor the opposition can give orders to the laboring classes. Velazquez' statements may, perhaps, be opportune because of the disorders among laborers during recent state and municipal elections in some areas.

The power of leaders to unify the conduct and ideology of their militants seems to decrease, at times to an extent that could prove alarming to them. The reminder by the veteran leader could be timely within the ranks of his organization.

It is necessary for the workers to engage in politics, to achieve representative positions through personal, collective, individual, and militant effort within the political organization of their preference. But if they are members of a union that is politically committed, they have two alternatives: to revise the laws in order to transform the organization's militancy, or to surrender individual liberty. If neither can be accomplished, they can leave the organization and join another more in accordance with their ideology. What is most important for a man is to act in accordance with his way of thinking.

BRIEFS

OIL FLEET -- Pemex has announced that it expects to "Mexicanize" the petroleum carrying fleet for coastal trade with a 30-billion peso short-term investment. Pemex explained that the country's shipyards will soon begin construction of at least 45 shallow draught ships in order to fulfill this goal. [Summary] [Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 30 Nov 83 p 1 PA]

COSTA RICA

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SEVERED WITH NORTH KOREA

SK070217 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Seoul, Dec 7 (YONHAP) -- The Costa Rican Government broke diplomatic relations with North Korea as of Dec 5 because of Pyongyang's terrorist attack against South Korean President Chon Tu-Hwan in Rangoon, Burma, on Oct 9, the Foreign Ministry announced Wednesday.

Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge Alvares Tuesday formally notified visiting South Korean Sports Minister Yi Yong-Ho, who is serving as a special presidential envoy to Costa Rica, of his government's decision to terminate all relations with Pyongyang. He also told Yi that Costa Rica would never again establish relations with the communist regime. The Central American nation has become the first country in the world -- other than Burma -- to sever diplomatic relations with Pyongyang over the North Korean-engineered bomb blast that killed 21 people, including 17 South Koreans.

Monge also told Yi that his government does not consider North Korea to be a legitimate state but instead, a terrorist group, a Foreign Ministry official said, quoting a dispatch from the Korean Embassy in Costa Rica.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Costa Rican chief delegate to the UN Legal Committee announced during the Committee's meeting that his government had severed diplomatic relations with North Korea because of the Rangoon bombing. Costa Rica established diplomatic relations with South Korea in 1962 and with North Korea in 1974. Costa Rica's action lowered the number of nations that maintain diplomatic ties with Pyongyang to 103. South Korea currently maintains diplomatic relations with 120 nations. Meanwhile, the South Korean Government welcomed Costa Rica's move.

In a statement released Wednesday morning, the Foreign Ministry said that the most effective and appropriate way to prevent the recurrence of terrorist acts in the international community is to impose international sanctions "as decisive as the one the Costa Rican Government has taken."

The Rangoon bombing attack, apparently an abortive assassination attempt on visiting South Korean President Chon, killed four Korean Cabinet ministers and many other top presidential aides. However, Chon escaped the blast by only minutes because he was late in arriving at the Aung San Martyrs' Mausoleum where he was to lay a wreath.

The Foreign Ministry statement condemned the terrorist act perpetrated by North Korean agents as "outrageous terrorism against peace, law, and order in the international community."

The South Korean Government firmly believes that the measure taken by the Costa Rican Government will set the stage for further strengthening of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, the statement added.

UN Ambassador To Announce Break

PA070427 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0332 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Costa Rican Acting Foreign Minister Armando Arauz Aguilar has announced that tomorrow in New York, UN Ambassador Fernando Zumbado will formally present our communique declaring Costa Rica's break in diplomatic relations with the DPRK.

MONGE SAYS ARAUZ TO REMAIN ACTING MINISTER

PA061710 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] When asked, upon his return from the United States, if he had already chosen the new Costa Rican foreign minister, President Monge said that Armando Arauz will remain acting foreign minister for a few more weeks. Monge said that he did not have the opportunity to choose a person to be responsible for the country's foreign policy during his visit to Miami and Minnesota, but that he did give the matter some thought. In conclusion, he said that Vice President Arauz Aguilar will continue to head the Foreign Ministry for a few more weeks.

ARAUZ ORDERS INVESTIGATION INTO ESPIONAGE

PA041513 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 30 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] Armando Arauz Aguilar, Costa Rica's second vice president and president of the State Security Council, yesterday confirmed that "there is espionage in the country which affects the government." Arauz noted that "we have confirmed that there are spies from both ideological groups, and I have ordered an investigation of the matter." Arauz added that "this topic has been brought up at Security Council meetings. We believe it would be ideal to have a specialized system to control these activities."

Arauz noted that "espionage exists not only in San Jose, but in other parts of the country as well." Vice President Arauz admitted that "this is a very delicate and complex matter, because espionage methods are becoming more sophisticated." "In my opinion, the government should have a professional, efficient security corps." He added that "of course we have detected espionage activities, which on occasion have increased considerably."

Meanwhile, LA REPUBLICA learned yesterday that two radio stations -- of the type used for communicating by communist groups -- have been detected. One was used to direct the operation of throwing paint at the U.S. Embassy a few weeks ago.

HAVANA CITES FIGUERES ON CASTRO, C.A.

PA042338 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Former Costa Rican President Jose Figueres has said in San Jose that a U.S. military invasion of Cuba would receive a very strong condemnation. In statements for PRENSA LATINA, Figueres expressed his respect for the Cuban construction workers and collaborators who died in Grenada during an unequal confrontation with the U.S. invaders. They are heroes of a cause, the former Costa Rican president said. He added that the Cubans working abroad deserve respect because they are struggling for a cause -- socialism. Figueres also spoke about Fidel Castro, and said that he is a clear and extremely well-informed man. Figueres added that he identifies with the Sandinist cause in Nicaragua, and described the Nicaraguan leaders as very astute.

He said that El Salvador and Guatemala are the most feudal societies in Central America. He stressed that the Salvadoran Army is an occupation army, although there are honest people in that Army. Figueres added that he approves of and supports the Salvadoran guerrillas.

In conclusion, he voiced his support for the active neutrality proclaimed by Costa Rica, and added that the Costa Rican moral strength lies in its military weakness.

HAVANA NOTES ARAUZ' SUPPORT FOR CONTADORA

PA042327 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Costa Rican Acting Foreign Minister Armando Arauz Aguilar has expressed his confidence in the Contadora Group's efforts and has stressed that specific measures to secure peace in Central America must be adopted. In reiterating his confidence in the countries that comprise the Contadora Group, Arauz Aguiler said that Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama have all made great efforts to stop the bloodshed in Central America. Armando Arauz Aguilar was recently appointed acting foreign minister following Fernando Volio Jimenez' resignation. Unlike Volio Jimenez, the new minister believes [recordo] that the Contadora's Group's efforts work to strengthen peace, democracy, nonintervention in our countries' domestic affairs, and self-determination.

HAVANA CITES SOLANO ON MINING OF BORDER

PA060300 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Costa Rican Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano has said that President Luis Alberto Monge's government will not permit anti-Sandinist bands to mine Costa Rican territory on the Nicaraguan border, and disclosed that an investigation into charges made in this regard is underway. On Friday, inhabitants of San Carlos, in northern Costa Rica, provided detailed information on the mining of a 10-mile border strip, indicating that this was done by members of Eden Pastora's counterrevolutionary bands.

I am not surprised that such actions would be carried out by those who have shown disrespect for the Costa Rican Government's Declaration of Neutrality, Solano stressed. He added that if these charges are proven true, Costa Rica would find itself in a difficult situation.

BRIEFS

1984 BUDGET APPROVED -- In a third debate, the Legislative Assembly last night approved a 1984 budget of 25.1 billion colones, with a deficit of 9 billion colones. [Summary] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 29 Nov 83 p 8 PA]

EL SALVADOR

JURY FINDS MEMBERS OF SECURITY CORPS GUILTY

PA021333 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Spokesmen of the Isidro Melendez Judicial Center have confirmed that the individuals responsible for the deaths of several university students; of National Administration of Waterworks and Sewers, ANDA, workers; and of Carlos Roberto Rodriguez, former dean of the Economics School were all found guilty by the jury, whose deliberations began at 0930 yesterday and concluded at 0130 today at the Isidro Menendez Judicial Center. They were all members of the police corps organized during the 1976-78 administration of the University of El Salvador.

Sergio Martinez Paz, Carlos Alberto Gonzalez Munoz, Jose Ardon Cabezas, Ramiro de Jesus Hernandez Valle, Ignacio Sanchez Lemos, and Sixto Antonio Rodriguez Alvarez -- all former members of the security corps that joined the university police, better known among university students as Greens -- were all found guilty of murdering five people.

The judge has not yet sentenced them. Legal circles believe they could be sentenced to 30 years in jail.

RIGHTS COMMISSION OFFICIAL TELLS OF WORK

PA052214 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Human Rights Commission Secretary Monsignor Freddy Delgado yesterday told YSU radio that the commission has been informed of 871 cases of human rights violations, from among the almost 6,000 people who have been killed this year to date.

[Begin Delgado recording] We had the office and the necessary personnel ready as of 3 January this year, so we immediately began to work intensely for human rights. [passage indistinct] We have worked both to defend human rights and to promote them. Our defense consists of receiving charges of human rights violations and of trying to respond to these charges by making as detailed a summary of the information as possible. We then proceed to ascertain the person's whereabouts. Thus, the first step is to receive the charges and then to initiate investigations leading to discovery of the person's whereabouts.

As of 30 November, 871 such charges were received. Of that number, we have managed to secure the release of 131 people; that is to say, because of the intervention by the Human Rights Commission and because there were no grounds for detention in these cases, the people were released.

Another 92 cases were turned over to the courts as a result of the Human Rights Commission's intervention. Thus, these people were no longer detained in the places where they were under investigation, in that the time prescribed by law in which they must be brought to court had expired.

Twenty-one of the cases were kidnappings carried out by the FMLN-FDR. Another 18 cases were solved because of the amnesty law. Eighty-one cases involved people who felt that they were being persecuted, either by the ultraleftist groups, the security forces, or other groups, who asked the Human Rights Commission for protection. As soon as this happens, the commission asks high-level authorities to request protection for these people. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES WORK TO CONTROL ATTACKED AREAS

PA070112 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] A military source in Morazan Department has reported that the Armed Forces are in control of the village of Corinto, which was attacked at 1800 on Sunday. The military source reported that there were casualties on both sides. The same source reported that troops were sent to Ciudad Barrios and nearby villages in northern Morazan Department to restore order and to drive out rebel forces that were harassing the troops.

In Jucuapa, Usulutan Department, units from the Cazadores Battalion were trying to restore order in areas where the leftists have been causing disturbances, particularly on the coffee plantations. The Army is combing the area near Nueva Guadalupe, Buenaventura, and Jucuapa.

The same military source reported that actions were mounted yesterday afternoon in southern San Vicente Department to dislodge the guerrillas who have been occupying the El Carmen and Siete Joyas farms for the last 4 days. Both civilian and military sources have reported that the operation was successful in part.

The rebels have been trying to force the coffee plantation owners to increase the workers' wages, to provide better food and medical care, to pay the workers for 7 days of work, and to pay them 18 colones for every 100-lb of coffee beans that they harvest.

Military units have been assigned to the area to protect the coffee plantations so that the harvest of this crop, which is fundamental to the nation's economy, can continue.

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI REPORTS CABANAS FIGHTING

PA060321 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Attention, your attention: We have been fighting the members of the paratroopers battalion in Cabanas Department. On 3 and 4 December we attacked the enemy's positions in Pena Colorada, on Guazapa Hill, a scant 28 km north of San Salvador. From 1800 on 3 December until 0500 on 4 December, we fiercely attacked the enemy troops, causing them many casualties, both dead and wounded.

On 4 December our people's army fought the paratroopers battalion, which was attacking the canton of La Cruz, in Cinquera jurisdiction, Cabanas Department, but their advance was disrupted by our guerrillas' fire. As the puppet troops were unable to advance on their objectives, they requested reinforcements from the dictatorship's genocidal Air Force. An O-2 push-and-pull airplane, a military helicopter gunship, and a U.S.-made A-37 airplane arrived.

A report sent this morning by our correspondent on the Modesto Ramirez Central Front points out that these aircraft dropped more than 8 bombs and fired many rockets, while indiscriminately strafing the area near La Cruz.

We are fighting the dictatorship's forces in Cabanas Department. We are fighting and defeating the new tactics used by Ronald Reagan's advisers against our people. Forward, combatants of the heroic FMLN!

HAVANA ON FMLN ACTIONS, NEW ARMY BATTALION

PA022013 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The Salvadoran FMLN has been intensely harassing the troops of the regime in several towns in eastern El Salvador. The most recent harassment actions occurred in the towns of Tierra Blanca and Jiquilisco, Usulutan Department, and the city of Corinto in Morazan Department. The FMLN has inflicted close to 20 casulaties on the regime's Army. Army sources have announced that a new battalion of specialized troops will go into action in order to strengthen the regime's counterinsurgency operation in Morazan, San Vicente, and San Miguel.

HAVANA REPORTS RECENT ARMY-GUERRILLA CLASHES

PA021859 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Salvadoran guerrilla units have inflicted 16 casualties on the Salvadoran regime's Treasury Police as the latter tried to recover a stretch of the Coastal Highway occupied by the rebels. The clash took place only a few kilometers from Tierra Blanca, Usulutan Department.

Nine of the regime's men died and seven were wounded in the clash, Radio Venceremos, the official FMLN mouthpiece, has reported.

Other Central American stations, meanwhile, have reported that Salvadoran guerrilla forces attacked the garrison in the town of Corinto, 135 km northwest of San Salvador, and inflicted numerous casualties on the Army. According to other reports, guerrillas and troops are engaged in heavy fighting near Cerros de San Pedro and other areas in San Vicente Department, where the Army launched a large-scale counterinsurgency operation.

GUATEMALA

OFFICIAL REJECTS RUMORS OF COUP D'ETAT

PA062105 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 6 Dec 83 p 8

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Dec -- "If a new coup d'etat were to take place in Guatemala when the country is already firmly and surely on the path of democratization and the political groups are organizing within established regulations, it would be suicidal," Ramon Celada Carrillo, deputy secretary of public relations of the Presidency, said when he was asked about the insistent rumors of a coup.

The head of state's absence from the country for about a week shows the strength of the government and the confidence in the command leadership, which is sure that the commanders are fulfilling their mission of establishing constitutional order in Guatemala and are following the established timetable, as has been reiterated by General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores.

A coup d'etat would be suicidal, he added, because confidence in the country would be lost at home and abroad. Confidence in its authorities would also be lost. It would lead to a loss of faith in the Guatemalans' determination to begin a democratization process, a determination that can be seen in their registration to exercise their rights as citizens within that process.

A coup d'etat would destroy all the structural work that has been undertaken in the political sector, and it would force the country to rebuild the foundations that have already been firmly established and that simply need a short time to construct a democracy of broad participation.

If a coup were to be staged, no one would trust either the Guatemalan Government or people who want a return to a constitutional system. The people have hopes and confidence in the decision of the government and the Army.

ELECTORAL LAW DRAFT TO BE READY 15 DECEMBER

PA061948 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Arturo Herbruger Asturias [magistrate of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal] has said that the electoral law will be approved by the magistrates of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal on 15 December, since the head of state has requested that they approve it as soon as possible. The date 16 December had been set as the deadline for presenting the draft of the electoral law.

The political groups will have access to the draft before it is approved by the head of state. It has been announced that, as occurred with the registration law, all political groups will have access to the draft of the electoral law so they may express their opinions and so that it cannot be said the law was approved without consulting the politicians, who are always trying to create problems.

MEJIA VICTORES TO TRAVEL TO BRAZIL, ARGENTINA

PA062029 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Guatemalan Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores will travel to South America tomorrow, where he will visit Brazil and Argentina. Mejia Victores will arrive in Brasilia tomorrow. He will meet with President Joao Figueiredo, with whom he may discuss bilateral cooperation programs. After a 24-hour visit to Brasilia, he will travel to Buenos Aires to attend the inauguration of new Argentine President Raul Alfonsin.

During General Mejia Victores' absence, Colonel Rodolfo Lobos Zamora, head of the National Defense General Staff, will assume the executive and legislative functions of the head of state.

Mejia Victores will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran, Colonel Juan Jose Marroquin, chief of the head of state's staff, and government spokesman Pablo Nuila Hub. Guatemalan Ambassador to Argentina Enrique Juarez Toledo is also a member of the delegation.

GUERRILLAS REPORTED KILLED IN HIGHLAND CLASHES

PA052250 Guatemala City LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Dec 83 pp 1, 27

[Text] The Guatemalan Army Public Relations Office has reported the death of 12 guerrillas and 1 Army soldier in recent armed clashes in the highlands, where the Army is fighting the guerrillas. According to the Army Public Relations Office, a military patrol ran into a subversive group in the jurisdiction of Soloma, Huehuetenango Department on 2 December; in the ensuing clash, two guerrillas were killed. The military patrol captured several M-16 rifles, ammunition, and knapsacks containing medicine and personal items.

The Army Public Relations Office also disclosed that another military patrol discovered a guerrilla training camp in Salacuin, Playa Grande, Quiche Department, on 3 December. The guerrillas lost 10 men in trying to defend the camp.

Finally, the same military sources reported that soldier Hugo Balbino Perez was killed in action in San Luis Ixcan, Huehuetenango Department. No further details were available on this action.

FAR REBELS DESTROY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

PA042150 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] The Guatemalan Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, destroyed a state-owned communications center and damaged a military aircraft flying over El Peten Department. The rebels announced that they had caused considerable damage to the communications center and that they had recovered many radios and other equipment.

Other dispatches report that the Bank of Guatemala has received the first donation from the IMF assigned to Guatemala for a so-called economic and financial adjustment program.

Officials of the Guatemalan regime have admitted that the national situation is deteriorating, and rumors of a new coup d'etat persist. The reports state that the leaders of the new coup d'etat maneuver are General Carlos Arana Osorio, former head of the Guatemalan regime, and General Hector Lopez Fuentes, former chief of the Army General Staff.

BRIEFS

POLITICAL COMMITTEE REGISTERS -- The 20 October [20 de Octubre] Political Committee registered yesterday at the Political Organizations Department after fulfilling the first requirement established by the Civil Registry. Rolando Quintana, secretary general of the committee, said that its leader is Marco Antonio Villamar Contreras, and that the committee believes the overthrown Jacobo Arbenz government's policy, particularly with regard to land, is the most adequate solution for Guatemala's social problems. [Summary] [Guatemala City Radio Neuvo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY -- General Hector Mario Lopez Fuentes, former Army chief of staff, was sworn in yesterday as new Guatemalan ambassador to Italy. [Summary] [Guatemala City Radio Neuvo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83 PA]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA -- Hugo Argueta Figueroa, the new Guatemalan ambassador to Colombia, has presented his credentials. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Nov 83 p 12-A PA]

HONDURAS

U.S. NUNS' ENTRY DENIAL ELICITS OFFICIAL COMMENT

PA061503 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Based on the Constitution and immigration law, the Honduran Government has denied entry to some 200 U.S. nuns who had planned to enter the country on Monday under the pretext of coming to pray for peace in Honduras and Central America. Ambassador Amilcar Santamaria, director of the Honduran Government International Press Office, has issued the following official statement on the case:

[Begin recording] [Santamaria] The Honduran Governemnt today decided to deny entry to some 200 people who said they were nuns who wanted to come to hold a vigil and pray for peace.

The decision was based, first of all, on the fact that these people requested tourist visas. From their own statements in the United States, which were published by the media, it can be clearly deduced that they were not coming as tourists, and they were not interested in the scenic or cultural beauties of the country. It is evident that when one acquires a visa, one obtains the right to enter the national territory, but one also assumes the obligation of remaining within the confines of the terms that the visa establishes. Second, the published statements by some grops linked to leftist sectors show the connection between the people who wanted to come to the country and the groups that have expressed support for the Nicaraguan regime.

The Honduran Constitution clearly establishes that Hondurans by birth or by naturalization are the ones entitled to carry out legal political activity. It is unusual and notably illegal for foreigners to carry out agitation in Teguciagalpa, Comayagua, and Choluteca. If anyone has any doubts about the political links in this case, one need only read the paid advertisements published in today's newspapers. In those paid advertisements, various groups, including those who identify themselves as the extreme left, expressed their solidarity and asked the people to accompany these ladies. The government also received information indicating that these ladies had planned to block the northern highway near Comayagua.

One does not need to be very imaginative or have a doctorate in propaganda to understand that the essential objective of the blocking of the highway was to make it necessary for the police to forcibly remove them. The evident objective was to have this forcible removal filmed and photographed, and subsequently shown abroad, creating the image that nuns and priests are persecuted here and that there is a policy of harassment against religious freedom, freedom of conscience, and other liberties.

As if this was not enough, we must also raise an important point: The Honduran Catholic hierarchy has officially expressed its disapproval of such conduct. In view of all this, and exercising its sovereign right, the Honduran Government decided not to permit the entrance of people who were obviously coming to create disturbances and who, consciously or unconsciously, were coming to help the expansionist objectives of international totalitarianism.

[Unidentified reporter] Why do you say that they are linked to leftist groups? Has our government given any explanation to the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa regarding this case?

[Santamaria] As we said, the links are evident. If you read the names of those who published the advertisements in support, you will clearly note that these are persons who support leftist ideas. Moreover, it is significant that they were coming to pray for peace in a country that lives in peace, instead of going to pray for peace in El Salvador and Nicaragua, where there are very solid guerrilla movements that have even proposed the possibility of negotiations with the respective regimes.

Regarding the question of explanations to the U.S. Embassy, Honduras is a sovereign country. In the same way that the United States denied visas to Mr Borge and Mr D'Aubuisson, Honduras can deny a visa to any U.S. citizen, to any Dane, Chinese, or Soviet, without having to give explanations to the respective embassies. [end recording]

Havana Notes Visa Denial

PA061830 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The Honduran Government has denied visas to 80 U.S. nuns, 68 of whom were turned back at the airport in Tegucigalpa, where they were not even allowed to deplane.

The nuns were to take part in a demonstration calling for peace in Central America and protesting U.S. military presence in the region. They had planned to form a human chain on the Interoceanic Highway, which links Tegucigalpa and Palmerola, where the general headquarters of the joint Honduran-U.S. "Big Pine II" maneuvers is located.

Political leader Jorge Arturo Reina, former rector of the University of Honduras, said that the government is making a serious mistake by not allowing the U.S. nuns to enter the country while it welcomes U.S. Marines, who are the heralds of war, with open arms.

PAZ BARNICA TO ATTEND ARGENTINE INAUGURATION

PA061505 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica and Government and Justice Secretary Oscar Mejia Arellano will represent the Honduran Government at the inauguration of new Argentine President Raul Alfonsin.

The delegation will convey a message of peace from Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova and from the Honduran people in general.

The Argentine presidential inauguration will be held on 10 December.

HAVANA NOTES CBI, PROTESTS, CABINET MOVES

PA051344 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Amilcar Santamaria, director of the Honduran Government International Press Office, has announced that before the end of this year Honduras will receive more aid from the U.S. Government through Ronald Reagan's so-called Caribbean Basin Initiative. In the beginning Honduras was not mentioned among the countries to receive aid through this program, which includes U.S. private investments.

The presence of more than 5,000 U.S. soldiers in Honduras has been condemned by the U.S. religious women's movement for security and peace, and they have announced in Tegucigalpa the beginning of protest demonstrations against the situation to which the Central American region has been led and which is threatening to become another Vietnam.

Other reports state that Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova has decided to demand the resignation of his ministers and other high-ranking government officials in order to reorganize his cabinet before 20 December.

NICARAGUA

STATE COUNCIL SECRETARY VIEWS ELECTORAL LAW

PA062037 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Interview with Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, secretary of the State Council, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Deputy Commander, what electoral body has been charged with authorizing and proselytizing activities of the various parties?

[Solis] From the decree read last night, I understand that a body created in the electoral law will be charged with regulating all party activities. This has not yet been determined. This is one of the aspects being discussed with the parties; different views are being heard, and work is underway on the basis of these views.

The law creating this body must be approved before the parties can begin their proselytizing activities. This does not mean that other tasks, such as registration, the preparation of lists, and other activities, cannot be carried out.

[Reporter] Will this law be approved by 21 February?

[Solis] We don't think that it will be approved by 21 February. Last night it was stated that two other announcements will be made on 21 February. First, the date for the 1985 election will be announced, and second, the pre-draft -- not even the draft, but the pre-draft -- of what is to become the electoral law will be presented. This pre-draft will be submitted for a second round of discussions with all the parties. After an opinion is issued, it will be submitted to the State Council for further discussion.

'POLITICAL DEBATES' PROGRAM DISCUSSES ELECTIONS

PA062053 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 0230 GMT 6 Dec 83

["Political Debates" program, featuring the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, with the participation of Gustavo Tablada, FPR coordinator; Adolfo Evertz, of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party; Luis Humberto Guzman, of the Popular Social Christian Party; Luis Sanchez, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party; Rene Nunez, secretary general of the FSLN National Directorate; and Orlando Quinonez and Lombardo Martinez of the Independent Liberal Party; in Managua, 5 December -- live]

[Excerpts] [Gustavo Tablada] We could say that in October 1982 the FPR issued a communique to the Nicaraguan people and to friendly peoples and governments of the world. It stressed to the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction the advisability of starting a process in Nicaragua for the political institutionalization of the Sandinist people's revolution. The FPR specifically proposed that the following be discussed and approved: a political parties law, a law to regulate the communications media, and an electoral law. All this should lead to elections in 1985.

As of today, the pledge to the Nicaraguan people made by the FPR has been fulfilled despite the difficulties faced by the revolutionary process — the acts of aggression and the development of military aggression. We now have the political parties law, and its regulations are being discussed by the State Council. We progressed when the State Council appointed three members to form the political parties national council. The law to regulate the communications media will be presented in a few days. The four FPR parties will discuss the electoral law before it is presented, in due times, to the State Council.

[Orlando Quinonez] Good evening, dear radio listeners. The Independent Liberal Party has a long democratic history. It was launched in 1944 as a reaction against the Somozist dictatorship, which had violated Nicaragua's rights and had assumed power. Our party, because of its democratic history, sought to rescue the values and rights of all Nicaraguan citizens. We have always believed in the will stated by the leaders of the revolution to seek a democratic electoral process for our country, as had been announced earlier. We never doubted that this would happen. The decrees issued by the Government Junta yesterday, at the closing of the State Council's fourth legislative period, have encouraged all the liberal members. In truth, the situation of aggression which the Nicaraguans have been suffering raised the possibility that these announcements would be delayed.

We congratulate the revolutionary government and the FSLN for upholding the decision to institutionalize the process. We have offered our support and collaboration at the State Council in preparing the political parties law. We are presently reviewing the regulations of this political parties law. We are making efforts to ensure that Nicaragua achieves a democratic and effective law for the communications media. We are also establishing the bases for the electoral process in 1985.

Our party has participated in the State Council electoral commission; you have seen an excerpt of our position published in LA PRENSA today. We believe that the viewpoints stated by our party in this debate are very important for the effective achievement of democracy for the Nicaraguan people.

[Sanchez] I would like to refer to the two decrees announced and promulgated yesterday at the closing of the State Council sessions, because we feel they are truly significant, especially for two reasons. First, these decrees fulfill what was established in Decree 513 of 1980, when the electoral period was established.

These decrees both lay the groundwork for and promote the Nicaraguan revolution's process of democratic institutionalization. They open clear and categorical prospects and create a domestic political climate marked by trust and certainty. They naturally promote the development of political activities.

We also view these decisions by the revolutionary government with great sympathy and solidarity because, in addition to being an urgent necessity at the present historical juncture, they fully correspond to the position that the Nicaraguan Socialist Party has invariably voiced for some time. In our view, the elections should serve to elect the members of a national assembly, whose duty would be to elect the members of the various bodies that comprise the leadership, the government, and the state, in order to continue the formative process of the juridical and legal order that the State Council has developed thus far. A new constitution, the constitution of the new revolutionary state, the Nicaraguan constitution, should also be drafted. In addition, we think that an expeditious, simple, and accessible procedure should be established, one that is in line with our people's political development, with their level of political and electoral development, which is not very sophisticated.

[Martinez] We salute the measures adopted by the revolutionary government, which the government (?announced) a long time ago. I understand that we are taking the first steps toward the institutionalization of the revolutionary process and that the good will shown by the government in recent weeks proves there is a determination to lead the Nicaraguan people to the polls and to decide their future through the electoral path. As evidence of the trust that the government has generated among certain sectors, I would refer to a recent editorial in the newspaper LA PRENSA, acknowledging the government's good will. We believe the time has come for all Nicaraguans to overcome their difficulties and set aside their own interests on behalf of the collective good. We are at a juncture in our hisotry where we should fight for peace with all available means. The announcements that Commander Ortega made yesterday laid the groundwork for continued peace in Nicaragua.

[Nunez] I shall be brief, on account of the listeners' calls I wish to say two things only. First, I would like to state a position of principle. Both the Sandinist Front and the Nicaraguan Government want this to be an electoral process with all the necessary freedom needed to develop it. In other words, we do not favor censorship unless it becomes totally necessary. So, in principle, we favor a lifting of press censorship. However, it is not easy to refer to this issue at a time when we are facing an aggression. I think press freedom is vital for the elections, but I would add that our not being attacked is also vital for both the revolution and the elections. These are aspects that should be viewed as part of a single issue.

I think at this point the central mission of all Nicaraguan parties, whether or not they support the revolution, is to dedicate their utmost efforts to drafting an electoral law in line with Nicaragua's current reality, a law that is in line with Nicaragua's historical moment. Later we can discuss candidates, proselytization, and anything else you want. Before there is a juridical framework regulating the election, we won't talks about these issues. It would be like dividing the leather before catching the deer.

[Evertz] Concerning the issue of press freedom, which Companero Sanchez referred to earlier, we would like to add that there is freedom and there are freedoms, by which I mean that revolution in general, very particularly our revolution, will not let the media serve as standard-bearers or spokesmen of the counterrevolution in the name of freedom. Here in Nicaragua guarantees will have to exist so that all the parties participating in the electoral process can express themselves freely. However, it would be naive to think that in the name of that freedom either the counterrevolution or those parties that defend armed counterrevolution will be allowed to propagate ideas intended to make us retrogress or return to the past.

[Words indistinct] it is foolish to believe that news endangering the country's security will be tolerated in the name of press freedom. That is why when speaking of freedom we must explain clearly that there is freedom and there are freedoms, and that the freedom that must prevail is that which allows the manifestations of all the political parties participating in the process. However, nobody should harbor the illusion that either counterrevolution or Somozism will have the chance to propagate the despicable things that they propagated for 45 years, which caused so much harm. The measures adopted recently, and those announced yesterday -- the chance given to those Nicaraguans who wish to return, with the exceptions that have been pointed out, the chance to rejoin the Nicaraguan family given to those who are up in arms; and the amnesty itself, which is proof of the revolution's strength rather than of its weakness, as some try to believe -- are evidence of the mutual confidence that exists between the government and the people and, in general, of the confidence that exists in our revolution that we can and will have all the resources needed to gradually consolidate and advance this revolution.

OPPOSITION SAYS ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT NOT CREDIBLE

PA061705 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1303 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Panama City, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan political opposition has received the government's announcement of general elections in 1985 with skepticism, while those trying to overthrow the Sandinist regime by force have rejected it.

The Democratic Coordinating Board, the most important political opposition organization operating inside Nicaragua, has minimized the importance of the announcement, pointing out that the Sandinist government lacks "credibility." The Conservative Party had done the same.

The Coordinating Board, which is comprised of three parties, has said that the decrees concerning the electoral process announced last Sunday by the Managua government "have no credibility." The opposition believes that this lack of credibility is a characteristic of the regime.

Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, president of the Coordinating Board, made statements to ACAN-EFE in which he insisted on calling for a national dialogue among all sectors, with the support of the multinational Contadora Group. A similar position has been stated by Miriam Arguello, vice president of the Conservative Party. She has said that in Nicaragua there are no conditions that permit "talking about the electoral process," since there is no freedom of the press and the opposition parties cannot be mobilized or engage in propaganda work, since a state of emergency is in effect. Arguello added: "There is no specific action showing that the Sandinists have fulfilled their promises to the Nicaraguan people."

"RESCATE" ["Recovery of the Original Nicaraguan Revolution"], another political group which operates from San Jose, and is opposed to the Sandinist Front, has also expressed skepticism, but believes that the opportunity must be utilized. Leonel Poveda, a RESCATE leader and former deputy trade minister of the Sandinist government, has affirmed that "although the Sandinist leadership has lost credibility," the opportunity presented by the electoral process must be used, and the Nicaraguan opposition must unite to achieve this.

The armed opposition's immediate reaction has been to reject the Sandinists' elections proposal. The position of the leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), which is comprised of former Somozist guards, has not been anoounced yet.

In San Jose, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) has said it would accept the Sandinist proposal [condiciono la propuesta Sandinista] if the Sandinists turn over power to a national unity government in the near future.

An ARDE spokesman said: "We maintain the same position. On other occasions the Sandinist leaders have offered an opening to the opposition, but they have never given such an opening."

Jose Davila, a Christian Democrat and ARDE leader, has said that the Sandinist offer "is merely formal and incomplete, and cannot solve the Nicaraguan problems." He added: "Its only objective for the Sandinists is to buy time to stay in power."

In Tegucigalpa, MISURASATA, an armed Nicaraguan Indian organization, has said that the amnesty granted to Miskito prisoners, as announced by the Sandinists along with the elections package, is a "farce." The Indian group called for the union of the anti-Sandinist guerrilla organizations "to inflict the final blow." The group said it is false that the Nicaraguan Government holds only 210 Miskito prisoners, affirming, instead, that there are 25,000 prisoners.

FDN Rejects Amnesty

PA070210 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2305 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the anti-Sandinist armed organization called the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] rejected the amnesty offered by the Managua regime and announced that important guerrilla actions will be carried out in the coming days.

Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, commander in chief of the FDN, which is struggling against the Sandinist regime from Nicaragua's border with Honduras, labeled the call for an electoral process in Nicaragua in 1985 as "whimsical." "The goal of this process," Calero added, "is to strengthen the Sandinists' position without risking their political power."

According to FDN leaders, "this decree does not offer to put an end to the abuses or to repeat the repressive laws, which have prompted Nicaraguans to depart; it also ignores the rebel leaders' offer, depriving the people of leaders who can guide them in the pursuit of their rights."

Alfonso Callejas, who is also a member of the FDN directorate, added that "in the coming days we will stage important guerrilla actions, because the Sandinists are increasingly losing the Nicaraguan people's support."

Last week the Sandinist regime offered an amnesty for those citizens who left the country following the victory of the revolution in July 1979 and for those Nicaraguans who have joined the rebel forces that are fighting the current political system in Nicaragua.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS HONDURAN NAVAL ATTACKS

PA060014 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2320 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Letter sent by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica on 5 December 1983]

[Text] I address Your Excellency to report the following events:

Yesterday, 4 December, at 0950, two fast boats belonging to the Honduran Navy attacked Nicaraguan Coast Guard Vessel No 212 in Nicaraguan waters, off Punta San Jose, Chinandega Department. Exercising its legitimate right to self-defense, the Nicaraguan Coast Guard vessel repelled the unjustified attack, and one of its shots hit one of the attacking boats.

The same day, at 1400, two Honduran Coast Guard vessels attacked Nicaraguan fishing boats named "Copesnica No 15" and "Copesnica No 20," in Nicaraguan waters, 7 miles Cabo Gracias a Dios. As a result of this criminal attack, Nicaraguan citizen Freddy Ramirez was wounded. The boat named "Copesnica No 15" was damaged by the Honduran Coast Guard fire.

Today, at 0915, two fast boats and two Honduran Coast Guard vessels attacked two Nicaraguan fishing boats in Nicaraguan waters 2 km east of Punta San Jose. At 0930, three Honduran aircraft strafed and launched rockets at the Nicaraguan boats, supporting the criminal attack.

As a result of this act of aggression, the Nicaraguan boat named "Gonzalo Brenes" floundered, having been hit by rockets launched by the aircraft. Lorenzo Garcia, the boat's captain, was killed, while crew members Javier Ocampo, Teodoro Urbina, Roger Romero, and Jose Martinez were gravely wounded. The attacking boats and airplanes withdrew at 1002, moving toward Honduran territory.

These latest acts of aggression and flagrant violations of Nicaragua's sovereignty once again demonstrate the Honduran Government's complete lack of genuine willingness to achieve peace, despite its repeated statements to this effect. This attitude appears to reflect specific plans of provocation, the purpose being to hinder efforts to achieve peace in the region.

The Nicaraguan Government must voice the strongest possible protest of these events, and insist that the Honduran Government adapt its conduct to accord with fundamental principles of international law, particularly as it relates to respect for the sovereignty and integrity of other states. It also urges the Honduran Government to agree to real and specific compromises that can promote peace among the Central American peoples.

I offer you assurances of my highest esteem.

WHEELOCK REPORTS FURTHER CORINTO OIL ATTACK

PA070034 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0015 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 6 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- A "counterrevolutionary" commando group today attacked the oil-handling installations in Puerto Sandino for the third time this year, inflicting damage that the Sandinist government is now assessing. Jaime Wheelock, Nicaraguan agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, confirmed tonight that the oil terminal on the country's Pacific cost was attacked. Wheelock warned that "even if they destroy them (the oil lines) 10 times, they will not stop our flow of oil, because we have enough in stock." Wheelock, addressing farmers in the western Department of Leon, said: "We will repair the damage caused by sabotage."

In September, anti-Sandinist divers, using sophisticated equipment, blew up the oil lines with "C-4" explosives on two different occasions [words indistinct].

Defense Ministry Denies Attack

PA070408 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0030 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 6 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry today said that this morning's damage to an important oil-handling installation in Puerto Sandino was an accident and not sabotage, as was previously reported by a government leader.

A communique issued by the Defense Ministry stated that port authorities heard an explosion under the port at 0600 (1200 GMT) and later saw oil floating on the water. Military personnel guarding the port first believed that the explosion was caused by anti-Sandinist rebels trying to sabotage it. The rebels have attacked this point on several occasions over the past few months. Further investigations proved that the explosion was caused by a pressure buildup in one of the pipelines while a ship was unloading oil into storage tanks that are partially submerged.

During a peasant demonstration held today in Leon, Sandinist leader Jaime Wheelock said that the explosion was caused by rebel divers from a U.S. Navy ship off the Puerto Sandino coast. The Defense Ministry communique added that Wheelock made the charge based on initial information, which indicated the possibility of an act of sabotage. The communique stated that there were U.S. ships off the Puerto Sandino coast and this led to the charge that they had supported the alleged sabotage attack.

Central American diplomatic sources have said that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, recommended that the Washington-based rebels increase their attacks on important economic targets.

COSTA RICA WARNED OF PLANNED BORDER ATTACK

PA061415 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] A Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry communique has reported that an official message was sent to the Costa Rican Government yesterday regarding the following information:

It has been learned from various sources that counterrevolutionaries linked to the terrorist organization ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] are planning a criminal action of attacking a border command post of the Costa Rican Rural Guard located near Penas Blancas, using AKN and FAL rifles, as well as RPG-7 bazookas and mortars. The attack will be blamed on the Sandinist People's Army and the Sandinist People's Militias. Some 150 mercenaries are to participate in the attack led by a person who speaks Spanish with a strong foreign accent.

The Nicaraguan Government has reiterated its willingness to cooperate with the Costa Rican authorities in controlling the common borders and to adopt any initiative or measure necessary to prevent the execution of these criminal plans.

Nicaragua maintains a firm determination to preserve the friendly and good-neighborly relations that have always united the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican peoples. Nicaragua also reiterates its firm determination to work to preserve peace in the region, the communique said in conclusion.

UN AMBASSADOR CHAMORRO BRIEFS PEREZ DE CUELLAR

PA061906 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] United Nations -- Javier Chamorro Mora, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, yesterday briefed UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the latest developments in Nicaragua and Central America. The Nicaraguan diplomat met with the secretary general to brief him on the three proposals that the Nicaraguan Government presented on Friday to the Contadora Group regarding military, political, domestic, and regional economic development matters.

Chamorro also presented to Perez de Cuellar copies of the decrees issued in Managua by the Government Junta to strengthen national unity and political pluralism, particularly in the context of the electoral process scheduled to begin in Nicaragua in 1984.

Chammora Mora asked Perez de Cuellar to support the effort to be made by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, to facilitate the return of Nicaraguan exiles, particularly the Miskito Indians in Honduras.

The Nicaraguan ambassador stated that although there has been progress in the search for a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict, the danger of a regional war is still present due to the policy of military intervention that the U.S. Government promotes in the area.

According to UN sources, Perez de Cuellar is drafting a new report on the Central American situation and the Contadora Group's peace efforts; the report will be presented to the Security Council soon.

ORTEGA ON POLITICAL PARTIES, PASTORA, VIOLENCE

PY051709 Lima Cadena Nacional del Peru Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Journalist (Cesar Hieldebrand) interview with Nicaraguan Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega from the "Vision" program; place and date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [(Hieldebrand)] Will there be elections in Nicaragua in 1985, and if so, of what what nature? Will they be a complety free, democratic, and pluralist elections?

[Ortega] Yes, there will be elections in 1985. The commencement of the electoral process will be announced within the next few days. Of course, these elections will be in keeping with the Nicaraguan revolutionary spirit. All political forces and organizations that wish to participate in these elections may do so, and those that win the elections will be able to assume power.

[(Hieldebrand)] Absolutely all political forces, even the party headed by Mr Robelo?

[Ortega] Well, Mr Robelo's party does not exist in Nicaragua.

[(Hieldebrand)] Well, the political force that Mr Robelo at one time headed?

[Ortega] Well, what they now have are factitious forces armed by the United States operating in our territory.

[(Hieldebrand)] So as not to speak about forces, and being more specific, will Mr Robelo be allowed to run in the 1985 elections?

[Answer indistinct]

[(Hieldebrand)] Then is he in the same situation as Eden Pastora?

[Ortega] Yes, exactly.

[(Hieldebrand)] Therefore, since they have resorted to violence they shall not be allowed to participate in the 1985 electoral process?

[Ortega] They are left out of this process because they have even gone to the extent to [words indistinct] with a foreign power [words indistinct].

[(Hieldebrand)] Does this also refer to Eden Pastora, in particular?

[Ortega] [Words indistinct] About 3 months ago Eden Pastora publicly requested the CIA to send him the (?same) rifles that the CIA is supplying to the Somozist guards. [Words indistinct].

[(Hieldebrand)] But in an interview I had with him here in Lima a few months ago, Eden Pastora maintained that if the United States invaded Nicaragua, he was going to fight against the Americans. Does this not mean that, to a certain extent, Eden Pastora may be an alternative to the Somozist forces in Honduras being supported by the United States?

[Ortega] I believe that above all [words indistinct] Eden Pastora since I know that he is seeking U.S. assistance. He himself said this in Costa Rica a month ago. He said that he was going to stop all armed interventions, since the CIA was supplying more arms to the Somozist guards than to him.

[(Hieldebrand)] Now regarding the use of violence: You used violence to oust the Somoza dictatorship, and you counted on the support of Latin American countries. A Peruvian foreign minister actively participated in making the Andean Pact declare that since there were belligerent forces in Nicaragua, (?neutrality) must be assured. Commander, the opposition forces to the Nicaraguan Reconstruction Junta and to the Sandinist front charge that a dictatorship is ruling Nicaragua, and that, therefore, the use of violence is justified. They say that there is a dictatorship since the press is censored, there are no freedoms, and since the Sandinist government is tightening its control on Nicaraguan society. What are your views?

[Ortega] Well, above all, I must note that we resorted to violent means in Nicaragua, because it was the only alternative that the Somoza dictatorship gave up. However, in addition, it was also the only alternative in view of the erroneous policy implemented by the United States in Central America, particularly in Nicaragua. The United States never bothered to establish a democracy in Nicaragua. Had the United States bothered to establish democracies in Central America, there would have been no revolution in Nicaragua, there would have been no Somoza, no [words indistinct] for 45 years, nor any kind of these regimes. This is the injustice that Central American nations have experienced, particularly the people of Nicaragua.

During the Carter administration there was a possibility that the United States would recognize the Nicaraguan revolution, there was a possibility of an understanding. But then the Reagan administration assumed power, and it decided to fight against Nicaragua. It began to promote an armed alternative to the Nicaraguan revolution. This armed intervention was an incentive for the Somozist guard, for [word indistinct] actions within a legal framework such as those carried out by Mr Robelo. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

JUNTA SENDS MESSAGE TO PLO ON SOLIDARITY DAY

PA030304 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction sent a message to the Palestinian people and to the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, on the occasion of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The message stresses the increasing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, resulting from the intransigent attitude of the United States and Israel. The message demands that the Palestinian people's rights be respected, and that the nations of the region be allowed to exist in peace.

EDITORIAL SAYS 'SECRET WEAPONS' USED IN GRENADA

PA060418 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] Mexico City, (ANN) -- EL DIA, a Mexican morning newspaper, yesterday charged that the Pentagon tested secret weapons during the invasion of Grenada. In one of its editorials, the newspaper stresses that special secret Pentagon detachments, known as Delta Blue Light [in English] or DBL units, were used in the military action against the small Caribbean island. These same troops participated in the liberation of the U.S. hostages in Tehran some time ago.

The DBL's are stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. EL DIA adds that 500 soldiers who specialize in international homicide were deployed from that base. The DBL's used a new kind of weapon, one that has a paralyzing effect, in operations that were captured on film by the same Marines [as published]. The bodies of the victims of these weapons were transferred to the United States for examination. The Mexican newspaper also states that more than 1,000 Grenadians, including women and children, suffered the aftereffects of these paralysis weapons.

The newspaper indicates as well that more than 2,000 people are being held in concentration camps throughout the island and are being subjected not only to traditional kinds of torture but to torture involving chemicals that produce psychological effects. The more stubborn prisoners are denied food and water. Meanwhile, the lack of sanitary conditions at the concentration camps is causing epidemics.

EL DIA stresses finally that the Grenadian operation, along with the rise in neocolonialism, has changed the structures of control over the oil resources that, geologically speaking, are extensions of the oil beds being exploited in Venezuela.

U.S. SENATOR'S COMMENTS AFTER VISIT 'AMBIGUOUS'

PA031848 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Using the same pretext as the Reagan administration, Republican Senator Jeremiah Denton yesterday asserted that our country is exporting its revolution to El Salvador but presented no evidence whatsoever and gave no indication that his country is faithfully supporting the 21 points of the Contadora Group.

Denton, who visited Nicaragua for several hours yesterday, again brought up the worn-out allegations that the Miskitos and the Catholic and Protestant churches are being persecuted here and that there is no freedom of the press in Nicaragua in order to conceal the true situation faced by the revolution. He stressed that he favored the original program of the revolution submitted to the OAS, but that he thinks differently now. He did not elaborate but hinted he did not like our popular and anti-imperialist process.

Another ambiguous statement by Denton was that his government supports the Contadora Group. He declined to comment, however, on whether the Reagan administration is prepared to pull its military advisers out of Central America. He simply said that the United States has to protect its security interests.

The North American senator admitted that El Salvador has political and economic problems and that there is now a military problem. But his government will continue sending weapons to avert a revolutionary victory and to keep Nicaragua, Cuba, or any other country from accomplishing what they had planned in Grenada, the North American senator emphasized.

SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GDR IN MANAGUA

LD041142 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 0100 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] The GDR and Nicaragua reached agreement in Managua on long-term scientific-technological cooperation. The agreement was signed at the conclusion of the third session of the mixed government commission. Economic cooperation is also to be expanded. Next year the GDR is to export mainly trucks, construction machines, fertilizers, and chemical products. Nicaragua is to supply foodstuffs, tobacco, and coffee beans. Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Wilhelm Bastian stressed in Managua that the GDR wants to continue to strengthen its relations with Nicaragua in the future, which are characterized by friendship and anti-imperialist solidarity. His Nicaraguan counterpart, (Bernardo San Moro), thanked the GDR Government and people for their numerous demonstrations of solidarity with his country's struggle against the military and economic aggression of imperialism. He described the measures agreed as valuable support toward solving the tasks of the Sandinist people's revolution.

VENEZUELAN OIL CUTOFF SAID AFFECTING ECONOMY

PA031200 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Nov 83 pp 1, 19

[By EXCELSIOR correspondent J. Contreras]

[Excerpt] Acapulco, 29 Nov -- Juan Carlos Morales, president of the Federation of Petroleum Products Distributors in Central America and Panama, today charged that Venezuela has arbitrarily and unilaterally broken the San Jose Agreement. Venezuela is not supplying Nicaragua the 8,000 barrels daily agreed upon, "and Nicaragua is now facing the worst energy crisis in its history."

Morales was interviewed during the seventh international convention of petroleum products distributors. He said that Nicaragua is meeting only 50 percent of its oil needs because it is receiving only 7,500 barrels daily of refined products such as gasoline and diesel fuel, although it needs at least 20,000 barrels a day to meet needs. Morales said that the Exxon company of the United States has refused to transport Mexican oil to Nicaragua in light of the anti-Sandinist guerrillas' threat to mine the port of Corinto.

Morales, who is a Nicaraguan citizen, said that in view of this serious situation, "there is severe rationing of our limited fuel." He also explained why Venezuela refuses to supply us with oil: "About 9 or 10 months ago, Venezuela agreed to supply Nicaragua with oil and oil by-products. We were to pay 80 percent of the cost immediately, and 20 percent would be handled through soft credits. Venezuela was to send us 8,000 barrels daily."

He admitted, however, that the Sandinist government has only been able to pay 60 percent of the amount agreed upon. Nevertheless, within the framework of the San Jose Agreement, an understanding could have been reached on the unpaid balance, without cutting off our oil supply. He said: "Venezuela did not do this, and instead, stopped sending us oil." He said that with the help of PEMEX, "we are more or less surviving, although the crisis was aggravated on 2 August, when the port of Corinto was bombed and 2 million gallons of crude oil were burned."

OFFICIAL REPORTS RESULTS OF RECENT FIGHTING

PA042211 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2049 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Report by Deputy Commander Roberto Sanchez, head of the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry's Public Relations Office in Managua, on 4 December -- live or recorded]

[Text] On 24 November, fighting occurred in the area of [name indistinct], 15 km southeast of Quilali, in Jinotega Department. Two of our companeros were killed and 18 counterrevolutionaries were annihilated. On 1 December, there was a skirmish in [name indistinct], 3 km east of Ciudad Antigua. Subsequently, there were new clashes with the counterrevolutionaries in [name indistinct], 3 km east of San Fernando.

We do not yet know how many casualties the counterrevolutionaries suffered. Four of our companeros were killed. On 2 December, there was fighting in the place known as (Mata de Guineo), 25 km southwest of Nueva Guinea. Ten counterrevolutionaries were killed, and we dismantled their camp, from which weapons and supplies were confiscated. On the same day, there was another skirmish in Los Encuentros, 12 km east of San Juan de Limay, Esteli Department. One companero was killed. On 3 December, there was another clash, in the place known as (Cano Titina), 44 km northeast of Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department [words indistinct]. Ten of our companeros were killed.

This is the result of the various clashes: A total of 17 companeros of the Sandinist People's Army heroically fell in action, and 28 counterrevolutionaries were annihilated.

DEFENSE MINISTER CONGRATULATES CUBA'S FAR

PA031153 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0137 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Message from Nicaraguan Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega Saavedra to the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, FAR, on the occasion of its 27th anniversary; dated 2 December]

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces

Dear Raul:

On behalf of the FSLN, the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, and myself, please convey our revolutionary greetings and congratulations to the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, FAR, and to all the Cuban combative people on the occasion of the FAR's 27th anniversary.

Our peoples and armies, united by the common ideals of free men, who have been forged in the fire of our struggle against imperialism and strengthened by their high morale and combativeness, are the true guarantee of the defense of the revolutionary power.

Our fraternal embrace,

Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, defense minister, commander in chief of the EPS, and national chief of the Sandinist People's Militias

PCDEN URGES PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS, DEMOCRATIZATION

PA021604 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2009 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 1 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Communist Party of Nicaragua (PCdeN) today stated that it agrees with a peaceful solution to the problems "that are being discussed in the area," and that they agree with negotiations "as long as they don't affect the soveréignty and self-determination of the revolutionary process." In their magazine, AVANCE, the Nicaraguan Marxists said that political measures for the country's democratization must be urgently established. According to the communists, these measures must include the promulgation of an electoral law creating rules and mechanisms for an electoral process, and a decree reaffirming the holding of elections and the establishment of an electoral period, from the beginning of the process until the day on which elections must be held.

VOICE OF SANDINO DETAILS ARDE ACTIVITIES

El Almendro Post Attacked

PA021630 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 2 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 104 released by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance Armed Forces General Command, "in the mountains of Nicaragua" on 1 December 1983]

[Text] ARDE reports to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world:

1. At 0502 on 27 November a squad of the Fuentes Leon Aviles Column, commanded by Companero Edwin, penetrated (Villahuata) in El Almendro muncipality in Nueva Guinea jurisdiction, where the column attaked the village command post. After an hour of fighting, the enemy was forced to flee. The ARDE squad occupied the command post for 2 hours and then destroyed it.

2. As a result of this action, the Managua totalitarian Army suffered one dead and numerous wounded. The rebels seized two .38 caliber pistols.

3. Once its military and political objectives were accomplished, the ARDE troops made an orderly withdrawal. We suffered no casualties, and our forces have maintained a morale worthy of a high Sandinist dignity. This operation is part of a hitting and destroying strategy designed to lower the enemy's morale.

Death to interventionist Cubans and foreigners. Without totalitarianism or a return to the past. Mountains of Nicaragua, 1 December 1983

[Signed] ARDE Armed Forces General Command

Cardenas Attack Reported

PA031632 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 3 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 105 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance Armed Forces General Command, in "the Nicaraguan mountains" on 2 December]

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forced General Command reports to the people of Nicaragua and to the free peoples of the world that at 0500 on 18 November 1983, the Ezequiel Column of the (Indio Gigante) zone attacked from the front and sides the command and main positions of the town of Cardenas, Rivas Department.

Heavy weapons such as cannons, mortars, and LAW rockets were used in the fighting, which lasted 3 and 1/2 hours. The enemy suffered 19 dead and many wounded. The Managua totalitarian regime's force consisted of 1,000 men, including border guard troops and militiamen. The members of the pro-Soviet Army responded to this surprise attack with mortar, cannon, and rifle fire.

We must lament the death of three companeros who gave up their lives for our fatherland's freedom. After this bloody battle the ARDE forces withdrew to the Rivas Mountains, where they will maintain an unyielding fighting position until our fatherland is free of the (?crimes) that prevent the people's enjoyment of the principles of peace, justice, and freedom.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past. Mountains of Nicaragua, 2 December 1983

[Signed] ARDE Armed Forces General Command

Pro-Soviet Patrol Hit

PA060253 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 6 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 106 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command in "the Nicaraguan mountains" on 5 December 1983]

[Text] The ARDE Armed Forces General Command reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's democratic peoples that at 1000 on 28 November a pro-Soviet Army patrol was ambushed by the Victorio Martinez Squad of the Gasper Garcia Laviana Column, in the area of Punta Gorda. The enemy sustained 14 dead and many wounded in the ensuing 30-minute clash.

The totalitarian regime's patrol belonged to the so-called Simon Bolivar Battalion. Such a significant name, which stands for the liberation of peoples, should not be used by an army that is charged with the repression, torture, and murder of our Nicaraguan brothers.

Our Forces suffered no casualties.

Death to the Cuban and foreign invaders!

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Army Casualties

PA060404 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 6 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 107 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command in "the Nicaraguan mountains" 5 December 1983]

[Text] The ARDE Armed Forces General Command reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's free peoples that at 0900 on 29 November, the Gasper Garcia Lavaiana Column, operating in the TPH-1 zone, clashed with a patrol from Managua's Stalinist regime. The enemy suffered 40 casualties in the ensuing 40-minute fight.

We wish to report that the enemy's morale is very low and cannot be compared to the fighting spirit shown by the members of our armed forces, who are fighting the enemy with a truly patriotic and Sandinist revolutionary spirit.

Death to the Cuban and foreign invader!

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

HAVANA REPORTS ACTIVITIES, PLANS, STATEMENTS

Electoral Announcement

PA050510 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] In a communique issued in Managua, the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has announced that the country's electoral process will begin on 31 January 1984, and that the date for the elections will be announced on 21 February 1984. The text of the communique has summoned the Nicaraguan State Council to hold extraordinary sessions beginning on 4 January 1984. It also states that the proselytizing activities, electoral in nature, for specific candidates or parties will be allowed by the competent organization, in accordance with the electoral law. The process will end with the general elections to be held in 1985.

The Sandinist authorities have issued an official decree making it possible for all those citizens who left the country after 19 July 1979 to return to the country, even if they were involved in armed activities against the state. Excluded from this decree are the former officials of the extinct National Guard, members of the Somoza security apparatus involved in repressive actions, and those sentenced by the penal courts and who have not been granted pardon by the State Council.

Ortega, Nunez Cited

PA051858 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, the Nicaragauan Government Junta coordinator, has pointed out in Managua that the Sandinist revolution is stronger and more popular today than ever before.

During a State Council meeting, Commander Daniel Ortega referred to a number of measures taken by the revolutionary government over the past few days, including measures to initiate the electoral process and an amnesty to allow the return of several thousand Nicaraguans to their homeland. He said that these measures reflect the principles and commitments of the Nicaragauan people.

For his part, State Council President Commander Carlos Nunez pointed out that the country's peace and institutionalization will be achieved only when the revolution's enemies realize that an attack on Nicaragua would be very costly.

During its fourth legislative term, the State Council approved a number of measures designed to strengthen the revolutionary process. Nunez said that these measures have been carried out despite constant attacks by counterrevolutionaries and U.S. invasion threats.

Commander Carlos Nunez warned that democracy is not freedom to live well at the expense of those who live in poverty.

Those who think that efforts to unite Nicaraguans to forestall a possible, U.S. invasion are a sign of weakness should not fool themselves, because the revolution has enough forces to repel or crush those who conspire against the revolutionary process, he said.

The Sandinist People's Army [EPS], inflicted 28 casualties on the counterrevolutionary forces in several clashes that took place in northern Nicaragua over the past few days. Deputy Commander Roberto Sanchez, chief of the EPS' foreign relations section, reported that the clashes took place in the Departments of Nueva Segovia, Esteli, Jinotega, and Zelaya. Sanchez pointed out that the Sandinist fighters dismantled a counterrevolutionary camp and confiscated various kinds of weapons.

Ortega Comments

PA041953 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] After a 2-day visit to Peru, Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, returned to Managua. President Fernando Belaunde Terry saw him off at Lima's international airport.

Daniel Ortega, who was accompanied on his trip by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, had a meeting with Belaunde Terry and held talks with the presidents of the two chambers of the Peruvian Congress, as well as with the prime minister, foreign minister, and Lima's mayor.

A joint communique issued at the conclusion of the official talks stressed the support of Nicaragua and Peru for the Contadora Group's efforts to find a peaceful and negotiated solution to the Central American conflict. The Nicaraguan-Peruvian document expressed hope that all the countries of the contin nt will effectively and fully cooperate to create conditions that will make peace and security possible in Central America.

Daniel Ortega and Fernando Belaunde Terry expressed their satisfaction at the cordial understanding prevailing in Peruvian-Nicaraguan relations, and agreed to increase economic, commercial, and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

Ortega offered a news conference on his arrival in Managua, and stressed the expressions of solidarity with Nicaragua that he received from the Peruvian Government and people, as well as from other political forces in Peru.

Ortega said that the U.S. attitude toward Nicaragua has not changed. He added that threats against Nicaraguan territorial integrity continue, and therefore, the Nicaraguan people should remain alert in view of the possibility of either a direct intervention, or one using the Honduran Army.

Replying to a question, Daniel Ortega stressed that the recent amnesty granted Miskito Indians is not a concession of the Government of National Reconstruction, but follows a policy consistent with its principles.

The Nicaraguan leader rejected the request made by a coordinating board of organizations opposed to the revolutionary process that counterrevolutionary forces should be allowed to participate in the Nicaraguan national dialogue. They are ignoring the fact that these are totally artificial forces, created and promoted by the U.S. government through the CIA, Ortega stressed.

Military Situation, CIA 'Plans'

PA062020 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Deputy Commander Jose Gonzalez, the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry delegate in Zelaya Department, has announced that during the past 4 months the Sandinist People's Army killed some 150 counterrevolutionaries and took another 90 prisoner.

Gonzalez reported that in the past 30 days there have been 20 violations of Nicaragua's airspace and 10 armed attacks on fishing vessels. Peasants have been kidnapped and villages in Zelaya Department harassed.

Gonzalez charged that these activities are part of CIA and Pentagon plans to invade Nicaragua. He said that the U.S. troops in Honduras are practicing how to attack Nicaraguan territory in case of an eventual aggression against the Sandinist revolution.

Situation in Zelaya Norte

FL062243 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Approximately 150 counterrevolutionaries have been killed and 90 have surrendered in the past 4 months in the special zone Zelaya Norte, according to the delegate of the Nicaraguan Ministry of the Interior in that area, Deputy Commander Jose Gonzalez [as heard].

Reviewing the situation in the northeastern part of the country on the border with Honduras, Gonzalez said that in the past 4 weeks there had been more than 20 violations of Nicaraguan airspace, about 10 attacks on fishing boats, kidnappings, and harassment. These activities, he stated, are part of the CIA's efforts, carried out with the support of the Honduran military, to identify probable landing sites in Zelaya Norte. Nevertheless, the Sandinist official stated, the residents of that Nicaraguan region are developing their self-defense and the militia battalions are being organized.

The troops are always in [words indistinct] stage in Honduras and practice troop landings in areas similar to Puerot Cabezas, but they have not taken into consideration the fact that we are waiting to make them bite the dust, the delegate of the Nicaraguan Ministry of the Interior in Zelaya Norte said. Deputy Commander Jose Gonzalez stated that since December 1981, the Sandinist People's Army, the reserve battalions, and the militia [word indistinct] 8 enemy military operations, the goal of which was to occupy part of Nicaragua. He said that the number of American mercenaries is increasing in the counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras.

The Sandinist officer also mentioned the existence of plans to destroy important strategic targets of the Nicaraguan economy. But we are waiting for them 24 hours daily, he warned.

GOVERNMENT DECLARATION ON NATO MISSILES

FL061750 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Dec 83

["Text" of Cuban Government declaration on installation of U.S. missiles in Western Europe -- date and place not given]

[Text] The Cuban Government, deeply concerned about preparations in Europe to carry out the irresponsible and adventurous NATO agreement to install 572 medium-range missiles in five countries of the region, and aware that this action constitutes a new step in the overall worsening of the international situation as a consequence of the aggressive and warlike policy of U.S. imperialism and of the allies of the United States, wishes to reiterate its position against these aggressive actions and to support the serene and firm attitude adopted by the USSR and expressed in the declaration of Comrade Yuriy Andropov on 24 November.

Even before NATO's two-track decision was adopted, the Soviet Union, with its traditional policy of peace, began to effect numerous efforts to prevent the adoption and execution of such a dangerous measure, warning of the serious consequences it would have for peace in Europe and the entire world.

In this spirit, the Soviet Union put into practice unilateral arms restriction measures and initiated negotiations with the United States in Geneva on 30 November 1981. In the 2 years since, the USSR has presented numerous tentative proposals concerning the elimination or reduction of such weapons by both sides. It also expressed its willingness to maintain a dialogue for as long as necessary to achieve these objectives, if the principles of parity and equal security were respected.

The administration of Ronald Reagan, besides rejecting all the proposals, is now disposed to carry out its militaristic plans to upset in its favor the strategic balance of forces in the world and to achieve military superiority.

The placement of the missiles in Western Europe gives the United States the possibility of creating an additional nuclear threat to the socialist countries and constitutes a new element in its objective of negotiating from a position of strength.

This aggressive and irresponsible policy imposed by the United States, trampling on the will of broad and representative sectors of the world public opinion, including that of the countries where the missiles are being installed, not only creates an additional threat against the USSR and the socialist countries, but it also increases the dangers for all the countries of Europe and for the United States itself, which is increasing the risks of a thermonuclear catastrophe for all mankind.

The USSR's action and the measure expressed by Comrade Yuriy Andropov are also in harmony with the decision of the peoples to resist and defeat the counterrevolutionary crusade of imperialism on the worldwide scale. The Cuban Government expresses its understanding and support of the firm and at the same time responsible position that the USSR has assumed in defense of peace, independence of peoples, and social progress.

FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE ON MIDDLE EAST

FL070215 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Cuba's Foreign Ministry issued a declaration this afternoon in which it expresses that as part of the military escalation in the Middle East, the imperialist U.S. Government on 4 December carried out fierce air raids over Syrian positions in Al-Biqa' Valley and against the Druze militias on the mountains. These actions are a continuation of similar attacks conducted by the Israeli Air Force the day before against the Lebanese patriotic forces.

This once more demonstrates the U.S. collusion with Israel in their plans to the Middle East map where the Arab nations would be sacrificed for the sake of Israeli expansionism in payment for its work as U.S. imperialism's ally in the region.

A new war is being prepared against the Arab peoples but, unlike in the past, the U.S. aid will not be covert or underhanded. The U.S. Army and Navy are preparing to join the Tel Aviv troops in this new aggression.

In this dangerous game, the U.S. Government is trying to drag along with it and involve its NATO allies.

With great concern we are observing the developments in the Middle East and feel that if a local aggression is unleashed against Syria, the Palestinians, or the patriotic Lebanese forces as the U. S. strategists would like to do, it would set the area on fire and its consequences could be catastrophic. Cuba's Foreign Ministry, while energetically condemning all actions against Syria, the Palestinians, and the Lebanese parties, calls on all progressive forces to denounce the criminal plans of imposition of force which place the world on the brink of a world holocaust.

DIPLOMAT ACCUSES U.S. OF THREATENING MANKIND

FL007230 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Today our country accused the United States of threatening humanity's survival with the application of warmongering and hegemonic policies and the use of imperialist arrogance.

Cuban Diplomat Nester Garcia Iturbe, in a speech before the UN commission on topics dealing with strengthening international security and applying UN Charter rules for preserving peace, warned about the worsening world situation. The Cuban representative recalled that U.S. President Ronald Reagan in his speech of 17 June 1982 before the United Nations, said his country had pledged not to resort to threats or force against another state. However, he noted, they have violated the Charter's principles by trampling on the independence of and using force against Grenada.

HAVANA ATTACKS U.S. 'INTERVENTION' IN PANAMA

PA061532 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Dec 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] For the past 150 years, the history of the peoples of our America has been marked by constant U.S. intervention in the region's domestic affairs.

Most Latin American peoples have personally felt the insult implied in the presence of the U.S. imperialists' boots stomping on our land, with the resulting offenses and outrages. The pursuit of this rapacious and adventurist policy by the U.S. Government has not changed a bit. Indeed, it can be said today that it has not only continued, but has become even more cruel and bloody. Grenada, invaded and occupied by Yankee Marines, is the most recent and eloquent example of imperialist voracity.

The United States is drafting and organizing new plans of aggression against the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, and is trying to increase its military presence in every corner of this subcontinent. A Latin American nation that has truly suffered the humiliating presence of Yankee imperialists is Panama, which from 1865 to 1964, was the target of 15 direct interventions by Yankee Marines. At the present time, Panama is the victim of an intervention which, although undeclared, is evident with the presence of 14 U.S. military bases in the canal area. These installations have more soldiers than Panama's National Guard, and constitute a logistical center directed against the peoples of Latin America.

There are three military training centers in the canal zone: the so-called School of the Americas, which has had almost 40,000 graduates; the Inter-American Air Force Academy, which groups 14,000 armed troops; and the patrol boat training course, attended by 1,400 Latin American students.

It is also known that the United States has increased the number of troops in the area in preparation for new acts of intervention in Central America, particularly against the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador.

No one doubts that the primary mission of the U.S. military forces in the canal area is to attack any Latin American nation where Yankee monopolistic interests are threatened. In this military enclave, the U.S. soldiers are prepared for what several U.S. Government spokesmen have described as any contingency in Latin America. These forces are tasked with carrying out possible ground operations in Central and South America.

Ranking U.S. military personalities make frequent visits to the Yankee installations in the canal area. In the past few months, these visits have been so numerous that political observers not only link them with the U.S. warmongering policy in Central America, but also with a possible Washington attempt to take absolute control of the canal and thus trample on the bilateral canal treaties signed in 1977 and implemented 2 years later.

It wouldn't be too surprising if this happened, taking into consideration the fascist nature of the government of President Ronald Reagan and the constant violations of the letter and spirit of these agreements, which the United States has been violating for quite some time.

HAVANA NOTES GRENADA OFFICIAL'S RESIGNATION

PA062336 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Grenada Attorney General Anthony Rushford has resigned, accusing Governor General Sir Paul Scoon of failing to fulfill his promise to establish a constitutional government.

I have never before seen a situation where a governor general appoints himself the savior of his people, calls in foreign armies, and then does very little to bring about the restoration of constitutional civilian government, Rushford said on announcing his resignation.

It has also been reported from Grenada that military policemen from the United States and the Caribbean nations that participated in the 25 October invasion have been sent to rural areas and to the small island of Carriacou. This was done for the purpose of reopening the police garrisons in Grenada, which were closed during the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's regime.

It was learned in Washington that the U.S. Government also plans to send a group of experts to Grenada to determine what is required to render the Point Salines airport operational for tourist flights. Maurice Bishop's government always declared that this airport, built with Cuba's aid, was designed for tourism; however, U.S. President Ronald Reagan insisted that the airport was being built for military purposes. He even included this lie among his arguments for invading the samll Caribbean island.

CZECH REPORTAGE OF MALMIERCA OFFICIAL VISIT

For Czechoslovak reportage on the official visit of Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli to Czechoslovakia, see the Czechoslovakia section of the 6 December Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

ELECTIONS FOR MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY POSTS SET

FL061422 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The Council of State has announced that elections will be held on Sunday, 15 April 1984, to elect delegates for a 2 and 1/2 year term to the municipal assemblies of the People's Government. The announcement said the second round of elections would be held the following Sunday, 22 April, in electoral districts in which no candidate for delegate to the municipal assemblies has received more than half of the valid votes cast.

The Council of State has also designated the members of the National Election Commission which will be presided over by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura. Also on the commission are: Francisco Travieso, who will be vice chairman; Jose Aranaburo, secretary; and Roberto Lopez Gonzalez; (?Indigalez) Gomez; Olivia Milanes Leon; Orlando (?Bauer) Garcia; Maria Teresa Malmierca; and Rafael (?Feruosa) Perez as committee members.

KPL CITES CASTRO GREETINGS ON LAO NATIONAL DAY

BK061207 Bientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Vientiane, December 6 (KPL) -- Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP, [Lao People's Revolutionary Party], Central Committtee, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Souphanouvong, president of the Republic, on the occasion of the eighth national day of Laos, received a telegram of congratulations from Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the State Council, and prime minister of Cuba.

Fidel Castro noted with a sentiment of happiness that he witnessed the achievements scored by the young Lao repubic and its people under the vanguard of the LPRP in their efforts to safeguard the revolutionary gains and in countering their enemies. Thus they could fulfill the tasks of building socialism in the nation. In his telegram, Fidel Castro also wished that the fraternal relations existing between the two countries based on Marxism-Leninism and in the efforts to struggle for peace and social progress will [be] forever enhanced. Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister, also sent greetings to his Laos counterpart, Phoun Sipaseut, on the same occasion.

DOMINICA

NO CHANGE EXPECTED IN RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA

FL061523 Bridgetown CANA in English 1456 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Dec 6 (CANA) -- Dominica says it expects no change in its cordial relations with Venezuela following Sunday's presidential elections there, which saw socialist Jaime Lusinchi of opposition Democratic Action Party sweeping to power. Said Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles of the warm relationship between the two countries: "I don't think it will change, I hope not anyway. We have had assistance from Venezuela in the past; there are no new projects waiting to be pursued, but I think that we will have good relations with the government," Miss Charles told reporters.

Venezuela, under the outgoing Christian Democrat (COPEI) Party, has given Dominica over the past years a great deal of technical and financial assistance, and is now helping to reconstruct roads here linking the southern part of the island under a project estimated to cost more than 80 million U.S. dollars.

GRENADA

ADVISORY COUNCIL ENDS 3-DAY ECONOMIC REVIEW

IMF Loan Suspended

FL062329 Bridgetown CANA in English 1951 GMT 6 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada Dec 6, CANA -- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has suspended a 14.1-million dol. (U.S.) extended fund facility with Grenada in the face of grim economic projections, the caretaker government here reported today.

The suspension of the aid programme under which Grenada was expected to draw down approximately 3.2 million East Caribbean dollars (one E.C. dollar; 37 cents U.S.) last November was disclosed after the government ended a three-day review of the economy. A statement issued after the three-day meeting did not explained why the funds programme had been suspended, but the IMF usually orders a halt when economic performance tests are not met.

The so-called Advisory Council of Grenada was set up after American-led military intervention toppled a junta that had taken over from Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). It said it had examined the state of government's finances and had found an overall projected unfinanced deficit of 9.6 million East Caribbean dollars to December 31, 1983. Seven million dollars of this was attributable to the period January to October, 1983, the council said.

Fiscal arrears amounted to 5.1 million dollars, partly representing "outstanding contributions" to regional and international organisations. Among these are the University of the West Indies (UWI), the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), and the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA).

The arrears also represented outstanding claims for goods and services supplied by local merchants, commodity boards, and parastatal organisations.

According to the statement: "This grave liquidity situation inherited by the council evidently arose from the maintenance by the former regime of current and capital expenditures at unsustainable levels, leading to the accumulation of massive arrears."

The interim government said it had asked the IMF to immediately send a team to Grenada to review the programme. The government also said it was estimated that the recurrent revenue would fall short by approximately 4 million dollars (E.C.) following military conflicts last October when Bishop was executed by soldiers, the military seized power, and U.S. troops moved in to restore peace. It also said that 1,500 to 2,000 persons were dislocated and not gainfully employed because of the disruption of the government's programmes and projects.

The outstanding public debt as of November 30, 1983 amounted to 136.49 million E.C. dollars and an external debt of 103.53 million E.C. dollars.

The government said it was concerned over the extent of Grenada's "outstanding indebtedness" to regional and international organisations. "In order, therefore, to enhance the Government of Grenada's credit worthiness in the international community, the council directed the Ministry of Finance to prepare and submit to the respective institutions an appropriate repayment programme for settlement of the indebtedness over a period of 12 months ending December 31, 1983," the statement read.

The government also said that it was instituting an immediate study of all government programmes and projects so as to "determine which of them should be continued, restarted, or closed in the public interest and the staff absorbed or redeployed accordingly."

Statement Issued

FL070035 Bridgetown CANA in English 0005 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 6, CANA -- Following is the text of a three-page statement issued today by Grenada's three-week-old caretaker government, which ended its inaugural meeting last night.

Status of Government Finances

At its meeting on the 1st December 1983, the Advisory Council examined the preliminary report prepared by the Ministry of Finance on the status of the government finances. The information presented indicated that the finances are grim, with an overall projected unfinanced deficit of E.C. 9.6 million dollars to 31st December 1983, 7 million of which is attributable to the period January to October 1983. Included in this figure were fiscal arrears amounting to E.C. 5.1 million dollars, representing outstanding contributions to regional and international organisations such as the UWI, OECS, UNESCO, PAHO, SELA, etc, and outstanding claims for goods and services supplied by local merchants, commodity boards, and certain parastatal organisations.

This grave liquidity situation inherited by the council evidently arose from the maintenance by the former regime of current and capital expenditure at unsustainable levels, leading to the accumulation of massive arrears.

The council learned of the "suspension" by the IMF of the existing Extended Fund Facility (EFF) programme under which a drawing of approximately E.C. 3.2 million dollars was expected on the 15th of November. As a consequence, the severe liquidity position of the government has been compounded by this action of the IMF, which has been invited by the council to send a team to Grenada immediately for the purpose of reviewing the programme in the light of changed circumstances following recent events in the country.

The council was also informed of the impact on the economy and the consequential shortfall in revenue anticipated following the events (Army coup, execution of prime minister, and U.S. Caribbean military invasion) in October. It was estimated that recurrent revenue would fall short by approximately E.C. 4 million dollars and that approximately fifteen hundred to two thousand persons were dislocated and not gainfully employed.

The council considered at length the implications for employment and government revenue of the disruption and dislocation of certain of the government's programmes and decided to institute an immediate study of all the government programmes and projects affected so as to determine which of them should be continued, restarted, or closed in the public interest and the staff absorbed or redeployed accordingly.

The council was advised of the discussions which were proceeding between the Ministry of Finance and USAID authorities with a view to establishing certain labour intensive programmes for the absorption of staff which would have to be dispensed with as a result of the decision to discontinue certain government programmes or projects.

The council was also informed that the USAID authorities had projected U.S. 15 million dollars for the economic reconstruction of Grenada over and above the U.S. 3 million dollors emergency aid already approved by the U.S. Congress for essential repairs and for public utilities damaged during the events in October.

Approximately U.S. 5 million dollars economic aid is intended for balance of payments and budgetary support to the Government of Grenada, but it was not expected that these funds would be received before the end of the current year. As such, this promised support would not have any impact on the 1983 out-turn.

The council expressed considerable concern over the extent of the government's outstanding indebtedness to regional and international organisations. In order therefore to enhance the Government of Grenada's credit worthiness in the international community, the council has directed the Ministry of Finance to prepare and submit to the respective institutions an appropriate repayment programme for settlement of the indebtedness over a period of twelve months ending 31st December 1983. [as received]

The council was advised of the outstanding public debt as of 30th November 1983 which amounted to 136,497,093 dollars, [as received], broken down as follows:

Domestic Debt -- EC dollars 32,958,622
External Debt -- EC dollars 103,538,411

Grenada International Airport

The council was given an up-to-date report on the state of work on the international airport project, in particular the extent of the damage sustained with respect to construction materials. The council agreed to the establishment of a team survey consisting of representatives from:

(A) The U.S. Government
(B) The Government of Grenada
(C) Plessey Airports Limited

for the purpose of determining the cost of the damage suffered.

The council also gave careful consideration to the matter of the completion of the airport project and firmly decided that in the interests of the economic development of Grenada, the project must be completed. In this connection, it was agreed that steps be taken immediately to procure the necessary funds.

Public Enterprises

The council looked briefly at the present state of the public enterprises. There were currently some thirty-five of these bodies, the majority of which were uneconomic and constituted for some time a drain on public funds. The council therefore felt that a rational study should be mounted immediately by a committee including representatives from the Ministry of Planning, World Bank, and CDB to advise on the viability and profitability of these organisations with a view to making recommendations for the future operation of these enterprises.

Airport To Be Completed

FL070016 Bridgetown CANA in English 2321 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 6, CANA -- Grenada's new caretaker government has decided to press on with the construction of the island's controversial half-finished Point Salines international airport, an official statement said today.

"(The Advisory) Council gave careful consideration to the matter of the completion of the airport project and firmly decided that in the interest of the economic development of Grenada, the project must be completed," it said. Completion, which would give Grenada large jet capability and night landing facilities for the first time, is considered vital to developing tourism here.

The 71 million dollar (U.S.) airport was being built with substantial Cuban assistance up to last October 19, when the Army here overthrew the government, executed the prime minister and several of his colleagues, and triggered a U.S.-Caribbean military intervention here. U.S. officials said this week it would take between 10 million and 15 million dollars (U.S.) to complete the project, but it was unclear if they would help finance it.

Today's statement came less than 24 hours after the interim government ended a crucial three-day meeting during which it discussed its programme for running Grenada until general elections are held next year.

The government also agreed to set up a tripartite team to assess damage done to airport installations during the military action. The team will comprise representatives of the U.S. and Grenada Governments, and Plessey Airports Limited, a British firm which had a major contract for equipment installation at the terminal.

The airport was the centre of controversy between the Reagan administration and the former People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). Cuba had injected massive aid into the project and Washington had charged that it would be used as a staging post for communist military exploits in Africa.

Return of Students Sought

FL070009 Bridgetown CANA in English 2315 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 6, CANA -- Urgent steps are being taken to contact Grenadian students studying in Eastern bloc countries in an effort to secure their early return home, a statement from the Advisory Council said here today. An undisclosed number of Grenadian students are said to be studying in Cuba, the Soviet Union, and East Germany through scholarships arranged by the People's Revolutionary Government, which was deposed in a coup last October.

The statement, issued after a three-day meeting to work out a programme for the administration of the country's affairs, said an unnamed friendly country had been approached to make contact with the students and the governments involved to determine the timetable for their return as well as the wishes of the students themselves.

The Advisory Council, set up in the aftermath of the American-led invasion which toppled the short-lived military junta, said efforts were being made to find alternative opportunities and sources of funding for those students who may wish to continue their studies elsewhere.

GOVERNOR DENIES DIFFERENCES WITH RUSHFORD

FL062208 Bridgetown CANA in English 2048 GMT 6 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 6, CANA -- Government House, office of Grenada's Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, today denied there had been a rift between him and the legal advisor to the interim government, Anthony Rushford, who announced his surprise resignation yesterday.

"There has been no rift between the governor-general and Mr Rushford," a spokeswoman for Sir Paul told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA). "We don't know what prompted Mr Rushford's decision to resign. The press around the world has it but the governor-general has not received a letter of resignation from Mr Rushford," she added.

Rushford, a retired British constitutional lawyer who was appointed on November 15 as Grenada's new attorney-general, left the island immediately after announcing his resignation to reporters at the St James Hotel here.

His services were made available to Grenada by the Commonwealth Secretariat in London.

Informed sources here said Rushford's decision to quit was "a major blow" for the interim government for which a leader is still to be found to replace economist Alister McIntyre, who has so far not been able to take up the job because of illness. Acting head of the government, Nicholas Brathwaite, told CANA last night he would be discussing the issue with Sir Paul.

Rushford accused the governor-general of doing "very little" to bring about the restoration of constitutional civil government which the Briton said he considered the main task facing the island following last October's bloody military coup and the subsequent U.S.-led military invasion.

Sir Paul appointed the interim administration following the invasion that crushed a left-wing military junta that had killed and seized power from Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The main task of the government is to rule Grenada pending the holding of general elections next year to return the island to constitutional rule.

RADIO FACILITIES TO BE RESTORED BY WEEKEND

CBA Official on Fact-Finding Trip

FL061737 Bridgetown CANA in English 1722 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 6 (CANA) -- The secretary-general of the London-based Commonwealth Broadcasting Association (CBA), Alva Clarke, is now in Grenada on a 4-day official visit to determine how the CBA can assist the interim administration here.

"CBA does not have money of its own to give aid," Clarke said, "but we can influence both money and technical assistance and it is important for me to see exactly what is needed." The St Lucian-born Clarke, 51, is expected to hold talks with Ray Smith, the Advisory Council member responsible for communications.

Grenada is now without a permanent radio station following the destruction of Radio Free Grenada last October 25, when a U.S.-led Caribbean Multinational Force invaded the island to put down a left-wing military junta that had seized power 6 days earlier in a bloody coup.

The Americans have since set up a mobile transmitter, which serves the Navy-operated Spice Isle Radio. Clarke said he presumed the U.S. would rebuild the radio station.

The CBA secretary-general is also expected to visit Barbados, St Lucia, and Jamaica, the latter at the invitation of the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation (JBC).

Prospects for Station Outlined

FL061859 Bridgetown CANA in English 1839 GMT 6 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 6 (CANA) -- Grenada is moving to have its national radio facilities back in operation by the weekend, following the destruction of the state-owned Radio Free Grenada (RFG) during the October U.S.-led military intervention, a government official said today. Ray Smith, spokesman for information in the 3-week-old interim government, said the national radio station, to be called Radio Grenada, would operate from a single newly refurbished studio in St George's on 990 kiloHertz (kHz), using a 20 kilowatt transmitter belonging to the U.S. military. "Our target period is the end of the week and later this week the precise date and time will be fixed," he told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA).

Smith said the government was hoping to commission a second studio shortly which would be used for production purposes. It was also moving to have the national radio station back on its second frequency of 535 kHz medium wave shortly, the Grenada Government official added.

Since the destruction of RFG, mouthpiece of the former left-wing People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), Spice Island Radio, operated by the local authorities using U.S. military broadcast equipment, has been filling the void.

"We haven't got to the stage of identifying the cost of (refurbishing the national radio station but) clearly what has been lost is of considerable cost," Smith said. "An evaluation of this is taking place at the present time," he added.

All of FRG's belongings, including its record library, archives, and transmitters provided by the Government of Cuba were destroyed when the U.S. military bombed the station's headquarters at Morne Rouge, just outside St George's.

Smith said a number of organisations had already donated records to help the station rebuild a library and he expected more similar gestures. Smith said the interim government was also looking to "friendly" governments and organisations for financial and other assistance to get Radio Grenada on a firm footing. He declined to give names. He also said the station would initially employ about 25 persons. RFG employed around 45 persons.

JAMAICA

LOAN AGREEMENT FOR POWER PLANT SIGNED WITH JAPAN

FL051847 Bridgetown CANA in English 1750 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Dec 5 (CANA) -- Jamaica and Japan, through a Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, have signed a loan agreement for the equivalent amount of 78.7 million dollars (one U.S. dollar; 3.15 Jca dollars) for the purchase of electricity generating equipment. Jamaica's Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer signed the documents in Tokyo Saturday during a stopover on his way home from the Commonwealth Summit in New Delhi.

The loan, which was announced earlier this year, will be used to finance the purchase of two slow speed diesel generating units of 20 megawatts each, to be mounted on a barge for the Jamaica Public Service Company Limited -- the island's power company. This financing will be for a period of 25 years, with principal repayments in 37 semi-annual installments, commencing five years after installation of the plant. Interest is payable semi-annually at the rate of 5.75 per cent per annum.

The power plant will be manufactured in Japan and shipped to Jamaica. Tenders for the equipment close December 21 and officials have envisaged that a contract for the supply of the plant should be signed by the end of January 1984. Plans are to have the plant delivered and installed in Jamaica by the last quarter of 1985. The complete project will cost approximately 90 million dollars.

This diesel plant will operate on bunker "C" fuel at considerably lower operating costs than the company's older steam units.

SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY TO VISIT

FL062341 Bridgetown CANA in English 1958 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Dec 6, CANA -- The South Korean Minister of Sports and special presidential envoy Young Ho Lee [as received] is to pay an official visit to Jamaica from December 7 to 11. His party will include a spokesman from his country's Ministry of Sports and a member of the Division for Central American and Caribbean Affairs in the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr Lee is scheduled to meet local officials including the governor-general, Sir Florizel Glasspole, and Prime Minister Edward Seaga. He leaves the island on December 11.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

CANADA TO CONDUCT OFFSHORE OIL, GAS DRILLING

FL062352 Bridgetown CANA in English 2224 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, Dec 6, CANA -- Prime Minister Milton Cato of St Vincent and The Grenadines has welcomed the initiation of a 2 million (Canadian) dollar oil and gas exploration project to be financed by the Canadian Government in the southern Grenadines. On December 1 Cato signed the agreement for the project with Peter Towe, president of Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAC), the state-owned company that will be searching for oil and gas in a 1200 km area off the Tobago Keys, 34 miles south of St Vincent.

Cato said any project designed to explore and, where possible, identify marine oil and gas deposits was most welcome. The project, he said, was merely one of research, and any tangible benefit to St Vincent and The Grenadines was likely to be in the long term, but "what we are attempting to do is to lay the groundwork for the future."

He believed that at the completion of the project his government would have a clear picture of the country's off-shore oil and gas potential, and would therefore be in a position to conduct any future negotiations with interested oil companies from a position of strength.

Cato urged oil-importing countries to continue their efforts to reduce oil imports. He said: "Those of us who are oil importing countries must continue apace our quest for ways and means of reducing and perhaps even eliminating our dependence on imported oil."

St Vincent and The Grenadines' annual oil import bill is in the vicinity of 14 million (E.C.) dollars (1 E.C. dollar; 37 cents U.S.).

BOLIVIA

ARMED FORCES TO REPRESS TERRORISTS, ARMED GROUPS

PY061206 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The Armed Forces are fulfilling their mission, and they are employing all means to preserve internal security. This statement was made by Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas following the graduation exercises at the naval school. The defense minister added that in view of the existence of armed groups and terrorist elements, the government will adopt measures within the framework of the nation's Constitution and the Armed Forces' internal regulations.

OFFICERS BEING INVESTIGATED FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY061635 Paris AFP in Spanish 1446 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] La Paz, 3 Dec (AFP) -- Bolivian Air Force Colonels Guido Arien, chief of the Seventh (Logistic) Department, and Ernesto Mendoza, chief of the Air Fighter Group, are being investigated for possible involvement in cocaine trafficking.

Lieutenants Lino Mendoza, pilot, and Luis Aguez, in charge of communications, are facing the same investigation, as are two noncommissioned officers with the last names of Beltran and Goitia.

The facts being investigated started with the arrest of Air Force Captain Jorge Cuellar on 16 November at the New England farm in Beni, in the northern region of the country. According to preliminary investigations, the farm belongs to cocaine king Roberto Suarez Gomez.

During the police operation at the farm, two small planes and about 20 kilograms of cocaine were seized but, according to police reports, some drug traffickers managed to escape in another plane carrying 500 kilograms of cocaine. It has been determined that several special flights were made to the farm in recent months. Since such flights can only be authorized by Bolivian Air Force Commander General Juan Munoz, he will have to explain these irregular flights, according to a La Paz newspaper.

COLOMBIA

PRESIDENT BETANCUR'S BROTHER RELEASED 7 DEC

NC070901 Paris AFP in English 0858 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, Dec 7 (AFP) -- Jaime Betancur, brother of President Belisario Betancur, was released today, 15 days after he was abducted by a group of leftist guerrillas.

The leftist group, the National Liberation Army, told four Colombian national newspapers where Mr Betancur could be found. Later Mr Betancur's doctor said he was in good health, although tired from his ordeal. Mr Betancur was to give further details on his kidnapping and captivity at a news conference later today.

REPORT ISSUED ON KIDNAPPINGS IN 3-YEAR PERIOD

PA061715 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 5-B

[Excerpt] Forth-eight people were kidnapped by guerrilla groups in Colombia from 1980 to the present, according to a report issued by the authorities.

Included among the past year's victims are Jaime Betancur Cuartas, state council magistrate and the Colombian president's brother, who was kidnapped by a faction of the National Liberation Army. In addition, 34 citizens were kidnapped by non-political groups between 1981 and 1983.

URUGUAY

INDIRECT APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTION REJECTED

PY061601 Paris AFP in Spanish 2359 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Dec (AFP) -- The possibility of having the new constitution indirectly approved by the simple expedient of participation in the 1984 presidential elections has been rejected by most politicians on the grounds that it would be an absurd procedure from the juridical and moral standpoint.

According to the original idea submitted by the Armed Forces last July, and again by the press this past weekend, votes cast for presidential candidates will at the same time be understood as a vote of approval for constitutional reform, particularly regarding state security provisions. Several constitutional reforms related to state security were submitted to a popular plebiscite in 1980 with negative results.

Politicians in general agree that this proposal is unusual and arbitrary and violates the citizens' moral sense.

The oldtime politician Juan Chiarino from the minority Civic Union Party has noted that such a procedure would be an Uruguayan invention that he have not seen anywhere else in the world. Chiarino said that the potential voter would thus be forced to approve the reforms or abstain, which would be against his wish to participate in the election of a democratic government.